# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON

# LOCAL RULES OF BANKRUPTCY PROCEDURE EFFECTIVE AUGUST 8, 2008

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# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON

#### LOCAL RULES OF BANKRUPTCY PROCEDURE

# Rule 1001-1. Local Rules—Title, Numbering Sequence, Scope, & Effective Date.

- (a) Title. These are the Local Bankruptcy Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Oregon. A rule must be cited as an "LBR."
- **(b) Numbering Sequence.** The numbering sequence coincides with the FRBPs and, whenever practicable, the Uniform Numbering System for Local Bankruptcy Court Rules issued by the Judicial Conference of the United States.
- **Scope.** These LBRs must be construed to be consistent with the Code and FRBPs, and to promote the just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of a case or adversary proceeding.
- (d) Effective Date. These LBRs supersede all prior LBRs and general orders of the court, and govern all matters pertaining to bankruptcy cases pending in this court under any chapter of the Code on and after August 8, 2008, and all related adversary proceedings.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Rules of Construction & Definitions <u>LBR 9001-1</u>.
- Exceptions LBR 9029-1.
- Forms—Local (LBF) & Official (OBF) LBR 9009-1.
- Local Rules—District Court LBR 9029-3.

### Rule 1002-1. Petition—General.

#### (a) Authority to File.

(1) **Objection.** Any objection to the filing of a voluntary petition based on the debtor's lack of authority to file the petition must be made by a motion filed no later than 14 days after the date the meeting of creditors is completed. Failure to object timely will be deemed a waiver of the objection.

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- **Conservatorship.** A certified copy of an order for conservatorship of the debtor must be filed with any petition filed by a debtor's conservator.
- **(b)** Consumer Debt Presumption. A chapter 7 case filed by an individual will be presumed to have been filed by a debtor whose debts are primarily consumer debts unless another nature of debt is checked on the petition.
- (c) LBF #Ex. C-1 (Supplemental Petition Information). An LBF #Ex. C-1 must be filed with the petition.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Caption <u>LBR 1005-1</u>.
- Involuntary Petition LBR 1010-1.
- Filing Location LBR 5001-2.
- Representation of an Organization LBR 9010-1(c).

# Rule 1004-1. Petition—Partnership.

#### [Reserved]

Cross-reference: Representation - LBR 9010-1(c).

#### Rule 1005-1. Petition—Caption.

- (a) **Debtor's Current Name.** The caption must include the debtor's full name in "Mixed" or "Initial Cap" (i.e., upper and lower) case. If the debtor is an individual, the full first, middle, and last names, including any suffix, must be used in the following order: the last name and any suffix, a comma, and then the first and middle names (e.g., Doe Jr., John Hamilton).
- (b) Other Names Used by Debtor. Any other name used by the debtor that is included on the petition must be shown in "Mixed" or "Initial Cap" case. Names of entities other than the debtor must also show the debtor's relationship to the other names. For example, if the debtor's name is Jones, Margaret Ann, then other names used by the debtor might appear as: "Peggy Jones"; "owner of Jones Construction"; "partner in ABC Co."; or "sole shareholder of XYZ Corporation."

**Cross-reference:** Document—Caption - <u>LBR 9004-2</u>.

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#### Rule 1006-1. Fees—General.

- (a) Petition Filing Fee.
  - (1) **Petition Filed on Paper.** A separate filing fee must be tendered for each petition.
  - (2) Installment Payment.
    - (A) Request. A debtor must file <u>LBF #110</u> (or OBF #B3A) to request authority to pay the filing fee in installments.
    - **(B) Effect of Untimely Installment Payment.** A case may be dismissed without further notice if any payment is not fully and timely paid.
- **(b) Dishonored Check.** If a check or draft is returned for nonsufficient funds or another valid reason by the drawee, the clerk must thereafter accept payments from the drawer only in the form of cash, cashier's check, or money order.
- **Erroneous Payment of Fee or Charge.** An entity making any payment with respect to a filing fee, or other fee or charge, must ensure the fee is due and not overpaid or paid more than once. The clerk will retain any excess payment.
- (d) Child Support Creditor Exemption From Certain Filing Fees. OBF #281 must be filed.
- **(e) Waiver of Filing Fee.** 28 U.S.C. §1930(f) applies solely to the waiver of the fees required to file a voluntary chapter 7 petition by an individual.

# Rule 1007-1. Lists, Schedules, Statements, & Other Documents.

- (a) Chapter 12.
  - (1) Schedules D, E, and F (Liabilities). Schedules D, E, and F must be prepared by first listing all farm or fishing related debts under the heading "FARMING/FISHING OPERATION DEBTS" or "NONE" if appropriate, followed by a subtotal of those debts, then listing all nonfarm and nonfishing debts under the heading "NONFARMING/NONFISHING DEBTS" or "NONE" if appropriate, followed by a subtotal of those debts, and then a total of all debts listed in that schedule.
  - (2) Financial Review of Debtor's Business. A debtor must file <u>LBF #Ex. D-1</u> and, if applicable, <u>LBF #Ex. D-2</u> with the statement of financial affairs.
- (b) Chapter 13 Sole Proprietor. A debtor operating in business as a sole proprietor must file LBF #Ex. D-2 and, if applicable, LBF #Ex. D-1 with the statement of financial affairs.

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- (c) Documents in Cases Filed On or After 10/17/05.
  - (1) §521(a) Payment Advices. A debtor must not file a copy of any payment advice or other evidence of payment required by §521(a). The debtor must instead deliver a copy of all required payment advices or other evidence of payment as follows:
    - (A) Chapter 7 or 11. To the UST when the debtor files schedules A-J in a new case, or no later than 15 days after conversion of a case to one under chapter 7 or 11.
    - **(B)** Chapter 12 or 13. To the trustee (and not the UST) when the debtor files schedules A-J in a new case, or no later than 15 days after conversion of a case to one under chapter 12 or 13.
  - (2) Documents Supporting Items in Statement of Current Monthly Income (OBFs #B22A and #B22C).
    - (A) General. A debtor must not file a copy of any document required to be given to either the trustee or UST supporting any item in a statement of current monthly income. When the debtor files a statement of current monthly income, the debtor must contemporaneously give copies of any required supporting document to either the UST in a chapter 7 case, or to the trustee in a chapter 13 case. Despite any instruction to the contrary under OBF #B22A, a copy of any document supporting an item listed on the form, other than a payment advice, must be given only to the UST and need not be given to the trustee unless the trustee requests a copy.
    - (B) Family Violence Protection and Services Act Expense Details. If the debtor files a document that provides the details of expenses incurred to maintain the safety of the debtor and the debtor's family from family violence under the Family Violence Protection and Services Act, a copy must be contemporaneously served on the UST, and on the trustee if the case is under chapter 12 or 13.
  - (3) Motion for Extension of Time re Credit Counseling, or Exemption from Credit Counseling and Financial Management. A motion must be filed on LBF #100.3.
  - (4) Chapter 13—Certification of Completion of Instructional Course Concerning Financial Management. The debtor must file the required certification (see OBF #B23) no later than 60 days after the first date set for the meeting of creditors.

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- Chapter 11, 12, or 13—Certification of Payment of Domestic Support Obligations and Statement re §522(q)(1) Applicability. An individual debtor must file the certification and statement on <u>LBF #525</u> by the deadline set in a notice sent to the debtor upon completion of plan payments. [NOTE: Chapter 11 debtors should see §1129(a)(14).]
- (6) Chapter 7, 11, or 13—Debtor Tax Information Under §521(g).
  - (A) To Obtain a Copy. A motion must be filed, and the moving party must:
    - (i) Comply with the U.S. Court's Administrative Office Director's Guidance Regarding Tax Information under §521 available from the "Links" section of the court's Web site at www.orb.uscourts.gov.
    - (ii) For each tax year requested, give the clerk, contemporaneously with filing, a 9"x12", self-addressed, envelope containing sufficient first-class postage to mail a one pound package. If the motion is filed electronically, a paper copy of the motion, clearly marked "COPY," must accompany the envelope.
  - **(B)** Additional Restrictions re Use of Debtor Tax Information. An entity receiving copies of debtor tax information from the court must:
    - (i) Limit circulation of the information to the entity's attorney and key personnel involved in the review and decision-making process.
    - (ii) Not post or store the information in any place accessible to the public.
    - (iii) Destroy all documents and computer files containing the information no later than 60 days after the earlier of the date the case is dismissed or closed, unless required for further use by the U.S. Department of Justice.
- (7) Trustee's Duty re FRBP 4002(b)(2) Documents. The trustee must make a copy of each document provided by the debtor under FRBP 4002(b)(2) available for review by an interested party at the meeting of creditors.
- (d) Amendment. LBRs 1009-1 and 9004-1(d) apply.

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### Rule 1007-2. Mailing—List or Matrix.

# (a) General.

- (1) Form. The required mailing matrix must be prepared under <u>LBF #104</u>. However, if the petition is filed on paper and electronic media cannot be submitted, the debtor (or the petitioners filing an involuntary petition), and any other preparer of the matrix, must each file a certification that they are not able to create a matrix on electronic media.
- **Use of Matrix.** When serving a notice, the clerk may rely exclusively on the master mailing matrix, and any amendment thereto filed before service.
- (3) Federal Agencies. The mailing matrix, and the appropriate schedules, must include certain federal agencies and their addresses, as follows:
  - **(A) Commodity Broker.** If debtor is a commodity broker, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission at Washington DC.
  - **(B) U.S. Stock Interest.** If the United States has a stock interest in the debtor, the Secretary of the Treasury at Washington DC.
  - (C) Nontax Debt Owed to U.S. If debtor owes a debt to the United States other than for taxes, both the government entity to which the debt is owed and the U.S. Attorney for the District of Oregon.
- **Chapter 11.** The debtor must attach a certificate of service to the initial list of creditors filed under FRBP 1007(d) certifying the debtor separately provided the UST with:
  - (1) A copy of the list.
  - (2) A self-adhesive label with the name and service address for each of the following: the debtor (or party designated to perform the debtor's duties), any joint debtor, any debtor's attorney, and each creditor on the list.
- (c) Amendment. LBR 1009-1 applies.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Disk Used for Matrix LBR 5005-4(b)(3).
- Mailing Address—Federal Governmental Units LBR 2002-2.

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#### Rule 1007-3. Statement of Intention.

An individual chapter 7 debtor must file the statement under §521 on <u>LBF #521.05</u>. If the debtor fails to comply with an applicable subsection of §521, a party may file an appropriate motion.

#### Rule 1009-1. Amendment—Lists or Schedules.

An amendment to a list or schedule of creditors, equity security holders, codebtors, or other interested entities must be filed under LBF #728.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Document—Amendment LBR 9004-1(d).
- Proof of Claim—Amendment LBR 3001-1(a).

# Rule 1010-1. Petition—Involuntary.

- (a) Nonindividual Debtor. A petition against a nonindividual debtor must include the name and mailing address of the debtor, and any debtor's attorney.
- **(b) Summons.** LBR 7001-1(b)(3) applies.
- (c) Objection to Nonindividual Debtor's Consent to Order for Relief. Any objection must be made before the first time and date set for the meeting of creditors. Failure to object timely will be deemed a waiver of the objection.

**Cross-reference:** Filing Location - LBR 5001-2.

# Rule 1017-1. Conversion—Request for/Notice of.

Unless filed by a debtor that has a statutory right to convert the case, a motion to convert a case must be served on the debtor and any creditors' committee.

Cross-reference: Final Report/Account - LBR 2015-1.

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#### Rule 1017-2. Dismissal—Case.

- (a) Motion to Dismiss. Unless filed by a debtor that has a statutory right to dismiss the case, a motion must be served on the debtor and any creditors' committee. The motion must set forth the terms of any agreement concerning the dismissal.
- (b) Chapter 13—Motion to Vacate Dismissal. A motion must be filed on <u>LBF #1367.92</u>.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Final Report/Account LBR 2015-1.
- Reopening Case LBR 5010-1.

# Rule 1019-1. Conversion—Procedure Following.

# [Reserved]

#### **Cross-references:**

- Chapter 11—Final Decree LBR 3022-1.
- Compensation and Expenses LBR 2016-1.
- Final Report/Account LBR 2015-1.
- Meeting of Creditors LBR 2003-1.

# Rule 1020-1. Chapter 11—Small Business; Creditors' Committee.

A motion under §1102(a)(3) to dispense with a creditors' committee must be filed no later than 15 days after the entry of the order for relief. The motion must be served on the debtor and each creditor on the list filed under FRBP 1007(d).

Cross-reference: Chapter 11—Small Business; Disclosure Statement - LBR 3017.1-1.

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#### Rule 2002-1. Notices to Creditors and Other Interested Parties.

- (a) Entity Responsible for Giving Notice.
  - (1) General. The clerk may direct an entity to serve any required notice.
  - (2) Chapter 7. The entity requesting relief, other than a trustee, must serve all notices required under FRBPs 2002(a)(2)-(4). An entity serving a notice required by FRBP 2002(a)(6) must do so under LBR 2016-1.
  - (3) Chapter 11.
    - (A) General. The entity requesting relief must serve all notices except for one under FRBP 2002(a)(1), (a)(7), (d)(1), (f)(1), (f)(2) or (f)(6).
    - **(B) Plan or Amended Plan.** The proponent must serve a notice required by:
      - (i) FRBP 2002(b)(1) or (d)(5), together with the documents required by FRBP 3017(a), using the notice of hearing on proposed disclosure statement prepared by the court.
      - (ii) FRBP 2002(a)(5), (b)(2), (d)(6) or (d)(7), together with the documents required by FRBP 3017(d), using the order approving disclosure statement prepared by the court.
      - (iii) FRBP 2002(a)(6) for a final compensation application timely filed under LBR 2016-1(c)(2)(C).
  - (4) Chapter 12. The entity requesting relief must serve all notices except for one under FRBP 2002(a)(1), (a)(7), (f)(1), (f)(2), (f)(3), (f)(5) or (f)(6).
  - (5) Chapter 13. The entity requesting relief must serve a notice required by FRBP 2002(a)(2) or (a)(3).
  - (6) Chapter 15. A foreign representative filing a case must promptly serve the notice required under FRBP 2002(q)(1), and immediately file a certificate of its service.
- (b) Notice of Intent to Take Proposed Action.
  - (1) **Template.** A notice of intent to take proposed action when an LBF does not exist may be single-spaced, must begin at least 1" from the top of the page, and must be in the following form:

/////

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON

In re	) Case No.** [Insert case number]
[NOTE: Insertion of "other names used" included on the petition under <u>LBR 1005-1(b)</u> is not required, except on notices under FRBP 2002(n)]	<ul><li>)</li><li>) NOTICE OF INTENT TO [DESCRIPTION</li><li>) OF PROPOSED ACTION1</li></ul>
Debtor(s)	)

The [debtor, trustee, etc.] proposes to take the following action:

[Insert a brief description of the proposed action and the reasons for it; a summary of the effects; names of insiders to the transaction; and any other information required under (2) or (3).]

[If notice pertains to a motion or application] The (motion, application, etc.) may be inspected at the clerk's office at the address shown below, or at the service address of the undersigned listed below.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that unless you file an objection to this notice no later than 21 days after the service date, **and set forth** the specific grounds for the objection and your relation to the case, with the clerk of court at [insert the address for the office in Portland or Eugene, whichever is administering the case] and serve it on [insert name, address and phone number of party proposing the action], the undersigned will proceed to take the proposed action, or apply for an order if required, without further notice or a hearing.

(Signature) (OSB# if	fatty)
[PRINT OR TYPE N	NAME if filed on paper]
[ATTORNEY FOR	, TRUSTEE, ETC.]

On (insert date) I served copies of the above notice on: (list the entities served using the format required by <u>LBR 7005-1</u>).

(Signature)
[PRINT OR TYPE NAME if filed on paper]

\*\*The case number consists of a seven digit number: the first two digits represent the year the case was filed, followed by a hyphen, then five digits (the first digit being either a "3," "4" or "5" for a case being administered by the Portland office, or a "6," "7" or "8" for a case being administered by the Eugene office), followed by another hyphen, the three initials of the judge handling the case (in lower case letters), and then the number of the Code chapter under which the case is currently being administered (e.g., 07-60000-fra13 for a 2007 chapter 13 case administered in Eugene by Judge Alley).

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- **Proposed Use, Sale, Lease, or Abandonment of Property.** The following information, if applicable, must be inserted in a notice served under (1):
  - (A) A brief, general description of the property (if real property, include a street address and include or attach a legal description).
  - (B) Names of the buyer and other parties to the transaction, and their relationship to the debtor.
  - (C) Where a copy of the complete property description, or inventory, may be examined or obtained.
  - **(D)** The terms and conditions including, if applicable:
    - (i) The method and manner of submitting bids.
    - (ii) Conditions imposed on other bidders.
    - (iii) The time, place, and any special terms and conditions of public sale.
    - (iv) The time and place for preview of the property before sale.
    - (v) A statement whether the sale is of substantially all of the debtor's assets.
  - (E) Information regarding the adequacy of the consideration, and a statement concerning any independent appraisals.
  - **(F)** Whether the estate has equity in the property, and, if not, why the property is being sold by the estate and how expenses are to be borne.
  - (G) If no plan has been confirmed under chapter 11, 12, or 13, why sale before confirmation is beneficial to the estate or creditors.
- (3) Proposed Sale of Property Free and Clear of Liens and Other Interests. A notice of intent to sell property that includes a motion under §363(f) must be served on LBF #760.5, instead of under (1), unless the motion seeks authority to sell personally identifiable information about individuals under §363(b).

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(c) Notice of Hearing Template. A notice of hearing when an LBF does not exist or the court will not deliver one to an entity for service, may be single-spaced, must begin at least 1" from the top of the page, and must be in the following form:

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON

In re	Case No.** [Insert case number]
[NOTE: Insertion of "other names used" included	)
on the petition under LBR 1005-1(b) is not required,)	Adv. Proc. No.*** [Insert if applicable]
except on notices under FRBP 2002(n)]	
Debtor(s)	NOTICE OF HEARING [DESCRIPTION
	OF MATTER TO BE HEARD]
[If applicable]	
[Insert plaintiff names]	
Plaintiff(s)	
v	
[Insert defendant names]	
Defendant(s)	

YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING to consider and act on the following: [Enter description of matter to be heard].

WILL BE HELD ON [hearing date] AT [hearing time] IN [or BY] [insert either: (1) the hearing room number and street address, or (2) if by "Meet-Me" style telephone hearing, the telephone number, hearing ID number (CLEARLY set out in **bold** print), AND the statement that "LBF #Meet-Me is also provided"]. [NOTE: Unless provided on the court's Web site at www.orb.uscourts.gov, or when using ECF, this information must be obtained from the judge's calendaring person at the telephone number identified on the court's Web site.]

[Insert a statement as to whether or not testimony may be offered and received if admissible. *See* (d).]

```
(Signature) (OSB# if atty)
[PRINT OR TYPE NAME if filed on paper]
[ATTORNEY FOR _______, TRUSTEE, ETC.]
```

On (insert date) I served copies of the above notice on: (list the entities served using the format required by <u>LBR 7005-1</u>).

(Signature)
[PRINT OR TYPE NAME if filed on paper]

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\*\*The case number consists of a seven digit number: the first two digits represent the year the case was filed, followed by a hyphen, then five digits (the first digit being either a "3," "4" or "5" for a case being administered by the Portland office, or a "6," "7" or "8" for a case being administered by the Eugene office), followed by another hyphen, the three initials of the judge handling the case (in lower case letters), and then the number of the Code chapter under which the case is currently being administered (e.g., 08-30000-tmb7 for a 2008 chapter 7 case administered in Portland by Judge Brown).

\*\*\*The adversary proceeding number consists of a six digit number: the first two digits represent the year the adversary proceeding was filed, followed by a hyphen, then four digits (the first digit being either a "3," "4" or "5" for an adversary being administered by the Portland office, or a "6," "7" or "8" for an adversary being administered by the Eugene office), followed by another hyphen, and the three initials (in lower case letters) of the judge handling the case (e.g., 98-3000-rld for a 1998 adversary proceeding administered in Portland by Judge Dunn).

# (d) General Noticing Procedures.

(1) Notice of Motion or Application. A party required to serve a notice of a motion or application must serve the notice, with the motion or application, on the debtor and any creditors' committee.

# (2) Testimony Presentation at Contested Matter Hearings.

- (A) Testimony may be offered, and received if admissible, at a hearing, except that no testimony may be offered or received at a hearing conducted by telephone, or designated as a preliminary hearing or a status conference, unless all parties and the judge agree or a court-prepared notice of hearing so states.
- **(B)** A notice of hearing on a contested matter must state whether or not testimony may be offered and received if admissible.
- **Service Costs.** An entity serving a notice must pay all actual costs of service. An entity incurring service costs may, unless otherwise prohibited under the Code or these LBRs, apply for reimbursement of the costs under <u>LBR 2016-1</u>.
- (f) Accuracy of Mailing List. The clerk will not verify certificate of service information. If the clerk, no later than 35 days after a document's service date, receives written notice of a data entry error made by the clerk's office regarding a document served by the clerk, and the information necessary to correct the error, the clerk must immediately correct the error and re-serve that document.

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- (g) Change of Mailing Address, and Returned Document.
  - (1) **Duty to Notify Clerk of Mailing Address Change.** An entity must file a notice of the entity's address change on <u>LBF #101</u>, or provide the debtor's name, the case number, the entity's name, the entity's current address in the case record, and the new service address.
  - (2) **Returned Document.** The clerk must use the debtor's attorney's, or a *pro se* debtor's, address as the return address of record on a notice the clerk sends, to help ensure mailing accuracy, unless documents from different cases are sent in a single envelope. Except as provided in (f), the debtor must file <u>LBF #101</u> to correct any address errors regarding entities that were listed on the mailing matrix. The clerk will not maintain a permanent record of, nor retain, a document returned to the clerk.
- (h) Proposed Order if No Objection Filed Timely. The court will only consider signing an order resulting from a notice if the noticing party submits a proposed order under LBR 9021-1(a). The proposed order must include the exact name of the notice and its docket number. The noticing party must include with the proposed order a certificate stating that no objection was filed within the specified objection period, plus three days if FRBP 9006(f) applies.
- (i) Notice of Preferred Address Under §342(e) or §342(f).
  - (1) Creditor's Case-Specific Preferred Address Under §342(e). A creditor that wants an address to be used only in a particular case must file a notice clearly stating that request. The notice must contain the debtor's name, the case number, and the creditor's complete service address for that particular case. If the creditor does not comply with the foregoing requirements, any nationally preferred address the creditor has submitted under §342(f) will continue to be effective.
  - (2) Preferred Address Under §342(f). An entity requesting an address be used for all notices must only make the request directly to the National Creditor Registration Service established by the court's notice provider and the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts for this purpose, and not to the court, which will constitute filing of that request. Contact information is available from the "Links" section of the court's Web site at www.orb.uscourts.gov.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Agreement for Relief From the Automatic Stay, Adequate Protection, Use of Cash Collateral, or Obtaining Credit LBR 4001-1(d).
- Application for Compensation or Expenses LBR 2016-1.

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- Chapter 13—Plan; Form, Notice, and Service LBR 3015-1(b)(1).
- Electronic Filing LBR 5005-4.
- LBFs LBRs 9001-1(t) and 9009-1.
- Lien Avoidance Under §522(f) LBR 4003-2.
- Motion for a Chapter 11, 12, or 13 "Hardship" Discharge LBR 4004-1.
- Motion for Lien Avoidance (§522(f)) LBR 4003-2.
- Motion for Redemption LBR 6008-1.
- Motion for Relief From Stay, Use of Cash Collateral, or Obtaining Credit <u>LBR</u> 4001-1.
- Motion for Removal or Remand LBR 9027-1.
- Motion to Assume, Reject, or Assign an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease -LBR 6006-1.
- Motion to Compel Abandonment <u>LBR 6007-1</u>.
- Motion to Convert Case LBR 1017-1.
- Motion to Dismiss Case LBR 1017-2(a).
- Objection to Claim LBR 3007-1.
- Proposed Order or Judgment LBR 9021-1.
- Service & Certificate of Service LBR 7005-1.

# Rule 2002-2. Notice to United States or Federal Agency.

When an entity must give notice to the SEC or the IRS, the entity must send the notice to the agency's address obtained from the court's Web site at <a href="https://www.orb.uscourts.gov">www.orb.uscourts.gov</a>. <a href="https://www.orb.uscourts.gov">LBR 1007-2</a> also applies.

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# Rule 2003-1. Meeting of Creditors.

- (a) General. The clerk will give notice of the meeting using the mailing matrix filed with the petition and, for a converted or involuntary case, also any matrix amendments, or other lists (e.g., listing involuntary gap creditors) or matrices filed no later than 15 days after entry of the conversion or relief order. The debtor must give notice of the meeting of creditors to all other creditors and entities entitled to that notice on LBF #728.
- **(b) Attendance.** The debtor and debtor's attorney must attend and complete the meeting. The debtor's attorney may arrange for another attorney to attend in his or her place without a formal substitution of attorney. The debtor's failure to complete the meeting of creditors is a ground for dismissal of the case.
- **Location.** The UST will designate the location of the meeting. Generally, the meeting will be held in the meeting location assigned for the county of the debtor's residence. Upon written request submitted with a voluntary petition, or with the creditor information filed no later than 15 days after entry of a conversion or relief order, the meeting may be relocated to the location closest to the following (listed in order of descending priority): majority of in-state creditors, debtor's business, debtor's real property, debtor's residence, and debtor's attorney's office.

# (d) Request to Reschedule Meeting.

- (1) Compliance with UST Policy. The debtor must comply with the UST policy regarding rescheduling a meeting either before, or at, the scheduled meeting when practicable.
- (2) Request Filed After the Time Set for the Meeting.
  - **(A) Form.** The debtor must file a motion.
  - (B) Timing. To avoid automatic dismissal of the case, the motion must be filed promptly. If the case has been closed, the motion to reschedule the meeting must be accompanied by a motion to reopen the case (on <u>LBF #1367.92</u> if a chapter 13), and the appropriate court filing fee.
  - **(C) Content.** The motion must state:
    - (i) The reason for the request to reschedule the meeting.
    - (ii) The reason the request could not be made at or before the originally scheduled meeting.

**Cross-reference:** Use of Electronically Recorded Testimony - LBR 9017-1.

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### Rule 2004-1. Depositions & Examinations.

(a) General. <u>LR 30</u> applies. The clerk will not provide or store an electronic recording of an FRBP 2004 examination. No transcript of FRBP 2004 testimony or a deposition may be filed, although relevant parts of a transcript may be offered in evidence.

# (b) Setting Procedure.

- (1) Required Conference. Before giving notice of a deposition, or requesting an *ex* parte order for an FRBP 2004 examination, the party giving notice of the deposition or requesting the examination must confer, or make a good-faith attempt to confer, with the adverse party to set a mutually agreeable date.
- **Motion.** A motion for an FRBP 2004 examination must include a certification either:
  - (A) Stating the party presenting the order has conferred with the adverse party and obtained agreement on the date for the examination.
  - **(B)** Describing the steps taken in a good-faith attempt to confer with the adverse party about a mutually agreeable date.
- (3) Minimum Notice. Except for good cause shown, or unless the parties otherwise agree, FRBP 2004 examinations or depositions must be set no less than 14 days after the motion is filed.

# Rule 2010-1. Trustee—Bond or Surety.

A person elected or appointed as trustee must send an initial bond, and amendments, to the UST, who will promptly make a copy and file the initial bond and amendments.

# Rule 2012-1. Report Due if Successor Trustee Appointed.

If a successor trustee is appointed in a case, including upon conversion to another chapter, the succeeded trustee must file the applicable report required under <u>LBR 2015-1</u> for the period of time that trustee had been acting as the case trustee.

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## Rule 2014-1. Chapter 7 or 11—Employment of Professionals.

- (a) Chapter 7 Professional Employment Applications. A trustee must file on any LBF created solely for the trustee's use (e.g., LBF #753.50 (auctioneer); LBF #753.55 (liquidator); LBF #753.58 (collection agency); LBF #753.60 (real estate broker); LBF #753.70 (accountant); LBF #753.80 (appraiser); LBF #753.90 (attorney other than on a contingency fee basis); or LBF #753.95 (attorney on a contingency fee basis)).
- (b) Chapter 11 Professional Employment Application. A professional must file on LBF #1114.

# Rule 2015-1. Trustee—Reports, Accounts, Notices, & Destruction of Records.

- (a) Chapter 7.
  - (1) Inventory and Report of Assets.
    - (A) Initial. The trustee must file a report no later than 14 days after the meeting of creditors concludes.
    - **(B)** Amended. The trustee must file an amended report no later than 14 days after the actual or constructive receipt of assets if the preceding report was one of "No Assets" or "Undetermined Assets."
  - (2) **Final Report.** A trustee who has actually or constructively received any estate assets must file:
    - (A) The appropriate docket entry if nominal assets were returned to the submitting party, and the case is treated as a no-asset case, no later than 14 days after returning all assets;
    - **(B)** LBF #740.05 no later than 35 days after entry of the appropriate order if the case is dismissed, transferred, or converted; or
    - (C) LBF #740 upon liquidation or other disposition of all estate assets.
  - (3) Final Account. If a distribution order on LBF #740.3 has been entered, the trustee must provide a final account on LBF #740.5 to the UST no later than 14 days after receiving all initial bank statements indicating a zero balance from each of the trustee's depositories in which a deposit account was maintained in the case. The UST must file the final account no later than 30 days after its receipt from the trustee. A case may be closed without further notice after the final account is filed.

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## (b) Chapter 11.

(1) Monthly Financial Report. The DIP, or trustee if one has been appointed, must file a financial report each month. Each month's report must be filed no later than the 15th day of the next month. The filing of a full, complete, and accurate report in the form designated by the UST constitutes compliance with FRBP 2015(a).

## (2) Final Account.

- (A) General. A plan agent appointed under the plan to serve after confirmation or, if none, the debtor must file <u>LBF #1195</u> no later than 120 days after entry of a plan confirmation order.
- **(B) Upon Order of Conversion, Transfer, or Dismissal.** A court-appointed trustee must file LBF #1198 no later than 35 days after entry of the order.

# (c) Chapter 12 or 13.

- (1) **Notice of Plan Completion.** Upon completion of plan payments, and no less than 35 days before filing a request for the court to enter a discharge, the trustee must serve, but not file, a notice of plan completion on the debtor and debtor's attorney.
- (2) Final Account. The trustee must file LBF #1375 in a case no later than 14 days after entry of an order either of discharge, closing the case without a discharge, dismissing or converting the case, or transferring the case.

## (d) Trustee's Destruction of Case Records.

- (1) With Notice. A case record in the trustee's possession, unless required to be transferred to a third party, may be destroyed in the absence of a timely objection to a trustee's 35 days' notice by first-class mail of the proposed destruction to the entity from which the record was obtained, and to any other entity that has made a written request to the trustee for notice of the proposed destruction of case records.
- **Without Notice or Order.** Any case record in the trustee's possession may be destroyed after expiration of the time period established by the UST. In this LBR a "case record" includes all documents the trustee either obtained from any entity in connection with the case, or prepared in connection with the case.

## **Cross-references:**

- Chapter 11—Discharge for Individual LBR 4004-1(b).
- Chapter 11—Final Decree LBR 3022-1.

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## Rule 2015-2. Chapter 11 or 12—DIP/Trustee Duties.

- (a) Financial/Accounting Records. The debtor's financial and accounting records must differentiate between prepetition and postpetition transactions, assets, and liabilities.
- **(b) Deposit Accounts.** The DIP or trustee must promptly withdraw all monies from all prepetition deposit accounts and open new deposit accounts, including general, payroll, and tax accounts. New signature cards or account agreements, and checks, must state that the owner is either a DIP or a trustee, and the chapter of the case (e.g., "Ch. 11 Debtor in Possession").
- (c) Chapter 11 Monthly Financial Report and Final Account. LBR 2015-1(b) applies.

## Rule 2016-1. Compensation for Services Rendered & Reimbursement of Expenses.

## (a) General.

- (1) Nonprofessional Administrative Expenses. If a trustee fails to promptly pay an administrative expense, the claimant may request reimbursement of the expense by filing a proof of claim. A claimant must serve a notice under LBR 2002-1(b) of its intent to submit an order allowing immediate payment of the administrative expense, which must have a copy of the proof of claim attached, on the debtor and any creditors' committee.
- **Custodian.** A custodian superseded under §543, or an attorney or an accountant for the custodian, may request payment of compensation or reimbursement of expenses using a proof of claim under (1). A custodian not superseded under §543, or an attorney or accountant for the custodian, may request compensation or reimbursement of expenses by application made in the manner required in this LBR for an applicant filing under the applicable chapter.
- (b) Compensation and Reimbursement Amounts for Entities Other Than Chapter 7, 12, or 13 Trustees.
  - (1) Minimum Billing Time Increment. A billing time increment should not exceed .1 hour (six minutes), and any time spent working on multiple matters concurrently must be allocated between those matters so total billings do not exceed the actual time spent. The application must include a separate statement explaining any minimum time increment exceeding .1 hour.

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- (2) Reasonableness of Billing Amounts. If a billed expense or compensation sought for travel time does not exceed the limits below, there is a rebuttable presumption that the billing is reasonable and no evidence will be required unless a party files a timely objection to the billing. If a billing amount exceeds a limit below in any respect, then the application must include a separate statement explaining the method by which any amount in excess of the limit was determined, and the applicant must submit evidence that the amount sought is reasonable. An application or claim that seeks billing amounts within the scope of this LBR must expressly identify any billing amount that exceeds the following limits:
  - (A) **Photocopies.** \$0.15 per page for photocopies by the applicant's firm. Commercial concerns should be used at actual cost for a large project.
  - **(B)** Long-Distance Telephone or Mail. Actual cost of long-distance telephone or mail. The applicant must be prepared to demonstrate the necessity of using a delivery method involving charges exceeding the cost of first-class postage.

## (C) Travel.

- (i) Travel Time Compensation.
  - (I) If the applicant worked on the case or adversary proceeding while traveling, the full hourly rate will be allowed.
  - (II) If the applicant worked for another client while traveling, nothing will be allowed.
  - (III) If the applicant did not work on client matters while traveling, travel time will be allowed at one-half of the applicant's hourly rate. If a professional wants a court determination that travel time should be authorized at more than one-half the professional's hourly rate, the court will consider and rule on the application.
- (ii) Mileage. Automobile mileage not to exceed the allowed rate for federal tax deductions.
- (iii) Air Fare. Air fare not to exceed coach price. The applicant must be prepared to demonstrate the economic benefit of flying rather than using alternative transportation.

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- **(iv) Hotels, Meals, Per Diem, and Miscellaneous Charges.** Actual cost of hotels and meals, with a maximum of two times the government per diem rate. The government per diem rate charts are available at www.gsa.gov.
- (D) Secretarial, Clerical, Word Processing, and Other Staff Charges. Secretarial, clerical, word processing, and other staff charges are part of overhead, and not reimbursable unless the applicant demonstrates extraordinary circumstances. If reimbursable, services are reimbursed at the applicant's cost of employing the individual performing the services billed (i.e., salary plus benefits), but not any additional amount for overhead.
- **(E)** Outgoing Fax. Actual telephone charge, or actual cost for outside services.
- **(F) Computerized Legal Research.** Actual (i.e., invoiced) cost. The applicant must specifically identify time associated with computerized research on the applicant's time detail.
- **(G) PACER.** Actual cost billed by PACER Service Center.
- **(H) Messengers.** Deliveries by the applicant's employees are part of overhead and not reimbursable. Actual cost for outside messenger services. The applicant must be prepared to demonstrate necessity.
- (I) Other. Other expenses, including services provided by third parties, at the actual cost paid to the third party.
- (3) Paralegal/Legal Assistant. Hourly rate for performing paralegal or legal assistant work.
- (4) Local Counsel. If competent local counsel (i.e., an attorney where court hearings will regularly be scheduled in the case or adversary proceeding) is available, the court will allow compensation and expenses to nonlocal counsel in an amount not to exceed the total that would have been charged by competent local counsel. If an attorney wants a court determination before undertaking employment that competent local counsel is not available, the court will consider and rule on an application before employment is actually undertaken.

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# (c) Chapter 7 or 11.

# (1) Interim Application.

- (A) General. An application for interim compensation must be preceded by the filing of an interim report prepared by the trustee on either LBF #753 (for chapter 7) or LBF #1153 (for chapter 11). The applicant may contemporaneously file a motion (including a certificate of service on the trustee), and a proposed order, requiring an interim report be filed within 30 days.
- **(B) Form.** An application will be considered a final application unless the LBF title is marked as "INTERIM." An interim applicant who is not an accountant must use LBF #345. An accountant must use LBF #345.7.
- **(C) Filing.** An application for interim compensation or expense reimbursement must be filed in the case, and not as a proof of claim.

## (D) Notice of Intent to Compensate Professional.

- (i) Before an interim application will be considered by the court, a notice must be filed on <u>LBF #753.40</u> unless the application is submitted by either:
  - (I) A chapter 7 trustee, who must file on any LBF created solely for the trustee's use (e.g., #753.50 (auctioneer), #753.55 (liquidator), #753.58 (collection agency), #753.60 (real estate broker), or #753.80 (appraiser)).
  - (II) A chapter 11 real estate broker or auctioneer.
- (ii) Except for a chapter 7 trustee, an applicant preparing a notice is generally responsible for noticing the referenced application. Notices of multiple applications in a given case may be consolidated. An applicant who prepares and serves a notice on behalf of other applicants must notify the other applicants, and those other applicants must not also serve a notice. The cost of service must be borne by each applicant whose application is described in any notice in proportion to the total compensation or expense reimbursement requested.

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## (2) Final Application.

(A) General. A final application for compensation or reimbursement of expenses must be filed as a proof of claim. An applicant must file a final application even if an interim application by the applicant is pending, or the court has awarded interim compensation that remains unpaid. An attorney's disclosure statement filed under FRBP 2016(b) is not an application. The requirements of (b) apply to the reimbursement of expenses or travel time.

## (B) Form.

- (i) Attorney/Accountant. An attorney must file on <u>LBF #345</u>. An accountant must file on LBF #345.7.
- (ii) Other Professional. <u>LBF #345</u> must be used unless the professional is:
  - (I) Employed under LBF #753.50 (auctioneer), #753.55 (liquidator), #753.58 (collection agency), #753.60 (real estate broker), or #753.80 (appraiser).
  - (II) A chapter 11 real estate broker or auctioneer.

# (C) Timely Filing.

- (i) Chapter 7. Unless the case has been converted, an application for compensation earned or expense reimbursement must be filed by the date the trustee's final report is filed. It is the applicant's duty to keep apprised of that filing date.
- (ii) Chapter 11. Unless the case has been converted, an application for compensation earned or expense reimbursement at least through plan confirmation must be filed no later than 28 days after entry of the confirmation order.
- **(D) Untimely Filing.** The court may consider an untimely application if it is filed by the deadline in §726(a)(1), or in chapter 11. The applicant must file and serve any notice required by FRBP 2002(a)(6) under <u>LBR 2002-1(b)</u>, and either:

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- (i) When No Notice Required. Lodge a proposed order when filing the application, and clearly state in the title that no notice is required by FRBP 2002(a)(6).
- (ii) When Notice Required and No Objection Filed. No later than 28 days after the service, lodge a proposed order that includes a certification that no objection was timely filed.
- (E) Order in Chapter 11. Promptly after expiration of the notice period with respect to LBF #1190, the proponent of the confirmed plan must lodge an order awarding final compensation and reimbursement to professionals on LBF #1193, and include in that LBF all professional fee or expense reimbursement applications noticed on LBF #1190 for which no objection was timely filed.

# (d) Chapter 12.

- (1) Attorney. An application for initial or supplemental compensation or expense reimbursement must be filed on <u>LBF #1214</u> no later than 28 days after filing of the trustee's notice of plan completion. The applicant must file and serve notice of the application on <u>LBF #1214.5</u>.
- (2) Accountant. An accountant's application for compensation or expense reimbursement must be filed on LBF #345.7.

# (e) Chapter 13 Debtor's Attorney.

- (1) General. A disclosure of compensation and any employment agreement, and initial application for compensation, must be filed on <u>LBF #1305</u> no later than 14 days after the first date set for the meeting of creditors.
- **Postconfirmation Supplemental Compensation Application.** If permitted under the applicable provisions of the LBF #1305 filed in the case, the application must be filed on LBF #1307 no later than 28 days after filing of the trustee's notice of plan completion.
- (f) Converted Case. An application for compensation earned or for reimbursement of expenses incurred before a case was converted must be filed on LBF #345, and as a proof of claim. An application for compensation earned or for reimbursement of expenses incurred while a case was being administered in more than one chapter must separate the required information into a separate section for each chapter.

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# (g) Chapter 7 Trustee Time Records and Fee/Expense Application.

## (1) Time Records.

- (A) If Trustee Also Employed as Attorney for Trustee. The trustee and the trustee's assistants must keep detailed time records.
- (B) If Trustee Not Employed as Attorney for Trustee. The trustee and the trustee's assistants must keep detailed time records when the maximum fee available under §326(a) may equal or exceed \$10,000. This LBR does not preclude consideration of time spent in other cases.
- **(C) Descriptions.** Time records must detail the nature of the task performed, the identity of other parties to telephone conversations or meetings, and the length of time spent during each day upon which work is performed. A trustee need not allocate time among tasks performed during one day.

# (D) Fee Application.

- (i) Content of Fee Application. An application must set forth the total fees and expenses requested, a calculation of the maximum fee under §326(a), an itemization of requested expenses, and a statement of previous fees received. When total fees requested in the case exceed \$30,000, or upon request of the court, the UST, or a party in interest, the trustee must provide detailed time records, and must include in the fee application a narrative explanation of the trustee's services in the case, the total time spent in the case, and a discussion of other factors the trustee believes justify the requested fee.
- (ii) Final Fee Application. A trustee must file on LBF #740, supplemented if necessary by the information required in (A).

## (2) Trustee Expenses.

(A) General. Subject to the limitations of this LBR, a trustee may either: (i) pay from estate funds, without prior notice or order, nonprofessional expenses necessary to preserve or protect the estate, or (ii) reimburse the trustee from estate funds for those payments made from the trustee's funds. The foregoing expenses include insurance premiums, bond premiums, moving charges, charges incurred for storage of estate property, UCC search fees, property title search fees, recording costs, and locksmith or security charges.

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- (B) Notice of Expenses. If notice is required under FRBP 2002(a)(6), notice of the trustee's intent to pay or reimburse the trustee for expenses must be given on LBF #759.5. The trustee may pay the expenses without an order if no objection to the notice is timely filed.
- (h) Adversary Proceedings. The deadlines under LBRs 9021-1(c)(2) and (3) for filing, or objecting to, a cost bill also apply to filing, and objecting to, a request for attorney fees in an adversary proceeding when the prevailing party seeks judgment for its attorney fees.
- (i) Secured Creditor Expenses. In this subdivision the term "expense" includes the costs of insurance, taxes paid, attorney fees, appraisal fees, and inspection fees.
  - (1) Chapter 7 or 11.
    - (A) General.
      - (i) **Proof of Claim Required.** A secured creditor seeking reimbursement or payment of prepetition expenses must apply using a proof of claim. A secured creditor seeking reimbursement or payment of postpetition and preconfirmation expenses must apply using a proof of claim filed by the deadline in (c)(2)(C).
      - (ii) **Declaration of Professional.** A proof of claim filed for postpetition expenses that includes a claim for compensation of professional services must also include a declaration from the professional that contains the following five points of information and representations:
        - "(1) The declarant requests allowance of compensation for:

          Professional Services of \$\_\_\_\_\_; Expenses of \$\_\_\_\_\_; for a
          Total of \$\_\_\_\_\_. Expenses claimed were actually charged to
          the declarant.
        - (2) [Rate based on hourly charge] The rate of compensation, number of hours, and requested fee for each person included in this application are summarized as follows:

Timekeeper Hourly Number Requested (names and initials) Title Rate Of Hours Fee

[Rate not based on hourly charge] The fees for services were calculated as follows: (Describe). Services were provided by the following: (Identify by name).

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- (3) The declarant has not shared or agreed to share any compensation received or to be received for services rendered in connection with this case, except with a regular member, partner, or associate of declarant's firm.
- (4) A description of the timekeeper's services and expenses is included and incorporated into the declaration.
- (5) The declarant requests: a. A total of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for expenses that fall within the limits of LBR 2016-1(b) (no itemization required); AND b. Other (describe each in detail):"
- **(B)** Expenses Arising After Initial Proof of Claim. A secured creditor may include estimated future expenses, marked as such, in a proof of claim. In addition, a creditor seeking postpetition expenses may file an amended claim, with notice to be given under (C).
- (C) Notice of Claim or Amended Claim.
  - (i) General. A creditor must contemporaneously give notice under <u>LBR</u> 2002-1(b) of its intent to be paid by the estate unless notice is not required pursuant to (ii). If notice is not required, the creditor must clearly state that fact, and the applicable exception, in the first page immediately following the proof of claim form.
  - (ii) Exceptions. A secured creditor filing a proof of claim that includes a request for compensation or reimbursement of expenses must give notice of the claim to all parties entitled to notice under FRBP 2002(a), except as follows:
    - (I) If the request does not exceed the noticing threshold in FRBP 2002(a)(6).
    - (II) If a secured creditor seeks payment of expenses from the proceeds of sale of collateral, and the creditor informs the trustee of the amount of the requested expenses no later than three business days after being notified in writing by the trustee of the proposed sale, the trustee must include notice of the claimed expenses in the notice of proposed sale. The creditor must also file or amend a proof of claim for those expenses no later than 14 days before the deadline for timely objection to the sale.

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- (III) In a chapter 11 case, if the creditor files the proof of claim no later than 28 days after entry of the plan confirmation order, then the plan proponent must serve the claim or notice of the claim with the notice of confirmation on LBF #1190.
- (iii) Notice Expenses. If a creditor has had the opportunity to have notice of its claim served as part of a notice of proposed sale or plan confirmation, but does not do so, the creditor must serve notice of the claim at the creditor's expense and without increasing its claim.
- (D) Holdback for Expenses If Order Not Entered, but Sale Can Close. If the court has not entered an order regarding an expense claim when the collateral sale closes, the trustee must, until the court enters an order regarding the expense claim, retain in trust for the secured creditor 150% of the amount the creditor sought for expenses, which amount will be impressed with the creditor's security interest or lien.

# (2) Chapter 12 or 13.

- (A) Inclusion of Expenses in Proof of Claim. A secured creditor who requests payment of expenses by the trustee must also:
  - charged to the claimant, (II) none of the parties for whom expenses are claimed has shared or agreed to share any compensation received or to be received for services rendered in connection with this case, except with a regular member, partner, or associate of the claimant's firm, and (III) claimant has no ownership interest in any of the entities providing services for which reimbursement is sought.
  - (ii) **Prepetition Expenses.** Include and identify the expenses.
  - (iii) **Postpetition and Preconfirmation.** Either: (I) include postpetition, but preconfirmation, expenses in an initial or amended proof of claim, or (II) no later than 30 days after entry of the confirmation order, file an initial or amended proof of claim. The part of the claim attributable to postpetition and preconfirmation expenses must be clearly identified.

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- **(iv) Postconfirmation.** No later than the 90th day before the debtor is scheduled to make the final plan payment, file an initial or amended proof of claim that clearly identifies the requested expenses incurred after plan confirmation.
- (B) Disclosure of Preservation of Expense Claim After Discharge. A creditor that asserts a right to expenses as part of its secured claim, but does not request payment of those expenses by the trustee, must disclose its claimed entitlement to payment of the expenses either by filing and serving on the debtor a notice of the expense claim, or by including the expense claim in the creditor's proof of claim. A secured creditor may elect to include some expenses in its proof of claim, and other expenses in a notice.
  - (i) Information Required in a Notice. The creditor must: (I) state that the creditor asserts the right to expenses as part of its secured claim and does not request payment by the trustee, and (II) set forth the amount of the claim for expenses to the extent known at the time the notice is filed and any interest rate charged on accrued expenses.
  - (ii) Deadline to Give Notice. A creditor that asserts a claim for prepetition expenses must give notice of its claim by the deadline for that creditor to file a proof of claim. A creditor that asserts a claim for postpetition expenses must make its disclosure no later than the 90th day before the debtor is scheduled to make the final plan payment.
- **(C) Itemization of Expenses.** No later than 28 days after service of a request, a secured creditor must give a written itemization of the expenses not set forth in a proof of claim.
- **(D) Deadline for Objection to Claim for Expenses.** An objection to a secured creditor's expenses must be filed no later than 60 days before the final plan payment is due under the plan.

### **Cross-references:**

- Chapter 12 or 13—Amended Proof of Claim LBR 3001-1(a)(3).
- Chapter 11—Confirmation; Report of Administrative Expenses LBR 3020-1.
- Service Costs—Reimbursement LBR 2002-1(e).

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#### Rule 3001-1. Claims—General.

#### (a) General.

# (1) Asset Chapter 7.

- (A) Tardy Proof of Claim. If a tardily filed nonpriority unsecured claim does not otherwise state a reason for being considered timely under §726(a)(2)(C), the trustee must treat the claim under §726(a)(3) unless the claimant serves a notice under LBR 2002-1(b) of its intent to seek §726(a)(2)(C) status on all entities entitled to all notices, and obtains an order authorizing that status for the claim.
- **(B)** Amended Proof of Claim. A claimant filing an amended claim after the claim deadline must mark the claim "Amended," and file the claim no later than the deadline in (C).
- (C) Deadline to File. For a tardily filed nonpriority unsecured claim to share in the distribution under §726(a)(2) or (3), the claim must be filed, and any order authorizing §726(a)(2)(C) status for the claim must be entered, by the later of the date the trustee files a final report or any last date set for requesting a hearing on the final report.
- (D) Surplus Assets. If a trustee determines that estate assets might exceed all timely allowed claims, the trustee may file a request that a notice of surplus assets be given to creditors. If a notice of surplus assets is sent after expiration of the filing deadline for tardy claims in (C), the deadline for filing tardy claims will be extended as set forth in the notice.

# (2) Chapter 11.

- (A) General. A proof of claim is timely if it is filed within the deadline set forth in FRBP 3002(c) for a similar claim in a case filed under chapter 7.
- **(B)** Creditor Information Amendment. A debtor must file <u>LBF #728</u> to amend any creditor information, and the pertinent provisions in that form apply to the deadline for filing a proof of claim.

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# (3) Chapter 12 or 13.

- (A) Amended Proof of Claim.
  - (i) Notice Required Only if Debtor not Represented by an Attorney. A creditor must serve the notice on LBF #302.
  - (ii) **Objection.** To prevent distribution, an objection to an amended claim must be filed no later than 14 days after the date the amended claim was filed.
  - (iii) **Distribution.** The trustee must not make any distribution on an amended claim filed after the initial deadline for filing the claim until the later of either: (I) 21 days after it was filed, or (II) the timely filing of an objection under (ii).
- (B) Motion by Debtor for Payment of Untimely Filed Claim. A debtor seeking to have a claim treated as timely must file a motion on LBF #1365.
- (b) Transfer of Claim for Security Before Proof of Claim Filed.
  - (1) Filing Requirements. If a transferee files proof of the transferred claim, the proof of claim must state on its face: (A) that the claim was transferred for security before filing, and (B) the name and service address of the transferor.
  - (2) Transferee's Rights. If a transferor does not file proof of the transferred claim, or a timely objection to the clerk's notice of its filing, and no agreement to the contrary is filed within the objection period, the transferee will be considered the sole owner of the claim without further order.
- (c) Transfer of Claim After Proof of Claim Filed.
  - (1) Filing Requirements for Evidence of Transfer. If the transferor does not file the evidence of transfer, or a timely objection to the clerk's notice of its filing, the evidence of transfer must clearly state on its first page the full name and service address of the transferor.
  - (2) Claim Transferred for Security. If the transferor does not file the evidence of transfer, or a timely objection to the clerk's notice of its filing, and no agreement to the contrary is filed within the objection period, the clerk must substitute the transferee for the transferor, and the transferee will be deemed the sole owner of the claim without further order.

Cross-reference: Copy—Claim - LBR 5078-1.

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## Rule 3007-1. Claim—Objection.

- (a) Objection to Allowance or Classification of Claim.
  - (1) **Scope of Audit.** A trustee must audit, and serve any appropriate objection to, only those claims with sufficient priority to have a reasonable possibility of receiving a dividend. The trustee does not waive the right to later object to claims of a lower priority.
  - **LBF for Objection.** A party other than a chapter 7, 12, or 13 trustee must file on LBF #763.2. A chapter 7, 12, or 13 trustee must file on LBF #763.
  - (3) Secured Claim. Unless otherwise provided for in a confirmed chapter 11, 12, or 13 plan, no distribution will be made on a claim filed solely as a secured claim.
- **(b) Chapter 11.** A claim objection filed more than seven days after service of notice of the initial disclosure statement hearing does not affect the amount of the claim for the purpose of voting on, objecting to, determining creditor acceptance of, or otherwise determining whether to confirm, the plan to which the notice referred or any amendments to the plan.

## Rule 3009-1. Chapter 7—Distributions.

- (a) Interim Distribution to Nonprofessional Unsecured Creditors. A trustee may make an interim distribution without notice or order if the trustee has sufficient funds to pay all filed and anticipated claims in a claim category the same pro-rata amount, and the UST approves the proposed distribution.
- (b) Interim Distribution to Debtor. A trustee may make an interim distribution without notice or order if the trustee meets the requirements of (a), and the trustee has sufficient funds to pay all filed and anticipated claims plus interest thereon under §726(a)(5). A trustee may make a distribution to the debtor on an allowed exemption claim without notice or order.
- **(c) Distribution to Secured Creditor.** A trustee may make a distribution from proceeds of the creditor's collateral without notice or an order. The trustee must promptly make the distribution unless the trustee intends, or is aware that another entity intends, to challenge the secured claim.

## Rule 3011-1. Unclaimed Funds.

A petition for payment of unclaimed funds must be on LBF #391.

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## Rule 3015-1. Chapter 12 or 13—Plan & Payments.

- (a) Chapter 12. A plan must be filed on LBF #1200.05.
- (b) Chapter 13.
  - (1) Plan. A plan must be filed on LBF #1300.05.
  - (2) Order Directing Support or Chapter 13 Payments (Wage Order).
    - (A) The debtor must, no later than seven days after the meeting of creditors, file a proposed wage order on the version of <u>LBF #1351</u> that applies to the trustee administering the case. The debtor may, however, orally request at the meeting of creditors that the trustee orally waive this requirement.
    - (B) The court will enter a wage order promptly after it is lodged. After confirmation of the plan, the trustee may issue directives to the debtor's employer increasing or decreasing the payment deducted under the plan, changing the employer to which the wage order applies, or terminating the deduction. The trustee must file, and serve on the debtor, any directive.
  - (3) Motion to Terminate Wage Order. A motion must be filed on LBF #1351.5.
  - (4) Secured Creditor Rights When a Confirmed Plan Provides for Direct Payment of Secured Creditor's Claim. The creditor may continue automatic withdrawals of payments authorized before the petition was filed, and the creditor may deliver to the debtor coupon books, notices regarding payment changes, and account statements.
  - §1326(a)(1)(B) directly to the lessor only if the debtor's plan so provides, or if no plan provision addresses payment of the debtor's lease obligation. If a proposed or confirmed plan provides for payment of the lease obligation by the trustee, the debtor must make the payment as part of the payment to the trustee, and the trustee must pay the lessor both before and after confirmation. The trustee must disburse the lease payment to the lessor in the normal disbursement cycle as soon as the estate has funds, and the lessor has filed a proper proof of claim.
  - (6) Preconfirmation Adequate Protection Payments.
    - (A) The debtor must make adequate protection payments required by a proposed or confirmed plan through the trustee. The debtor must pay the trustee an amount sufficient to cover the payments and the trustee's percentage fee, which the trustee is authorized to deduct from funds received.

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- **(B)** The trustee must disburse each payment in the normal disbursement cycle as soon as the estate has funds available, and the creditor has filed a proper proof of secured claim.
- (C) Unless provided otherwise in the plan, a payment must be in the amount proposed in plan pt. 2(b).
- **(D)** The trustee must apply any disbursed payment to the allowed claim of the creditor.
- (7) Payment of Certain Claims Secured by Real Property. If a debtor and the trustee agree, the debtor may pay mortgage arrearages and other claims secured by real property upon a sale or refinance of the property directly to the creditor. The trustee may, upon demand, be paid the trustee's authorized fee based upon those payments either by the debtor or the escrow agent.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Chapter 13—Motion to Reopen Case or Vacate Dismissal <u>LBR 5010-1</u>.
- Chapter 13—Confirmation LBR 3015-3(b).
- Notice of Plan Completion LBR 2015-1(c).

# Rule 3015-2. Chapter 12 or 13—Plan Amendment.

- (a) General. Any proposed amendment must be:
  - (1) Entitled a "(insert First, Second, etc.) Amended Plan".
  - (2) Complete, including the proposed amendments, without any reference to any part of any prior document.
  - (3) Signed and dated.
- **(b) Preconfirmation.** If a proposed amendment is filed 14 days or more before a confirmation hearing, the debtor must attach the amended plan to <u>LBF #1355.05</u> and serve it under that form. If an amended plan is filed less than 14 days before a confirmation hearing, the court will determine at the hearing whether the debtor must comply with the preceding sentence.
- (c) **Postconfirmation.** The debtor must attach a proposed amendment to LBF #1355.10.

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## Rule 3015-3. Chapter 12 or 13—Confirmation.

(a) Failure to File Tax Return. If a taxing authority objects to confirmation because the debtor has not filed a tax return, and the agency has not withdrawn its objection before the confirmation hearing, the debtor must demonstrate to the court that the return has been filed.

## (b) Chapter 12.

- (1) **Hearing Notice.** Upon filing of a plan, the court will prepare a notice of confirmation hearing and deliver it to the debtor for service.
- (2) Order. A debtor must, no later than seven days before the confirmation hearing, deliver to the trustee a proposed confirmation order on <u>LBF #1255.05</u>. Upon entry, the clerk will deliver a copy to the debtor for service on all interested parties.

# (c) Chapter 13.

(1) Case Administered in the Portland Office. A debtor whose case is administered by the Portland office must, no later than seven days before the confirmation hearing, deliver to the trustee a proposed confirmation order on <u>LBF #1350.05</u> either as a paper original (i.e., a facsimile copy is not acceptable) or, if using e-mail, in a text-based PDF format (i.e., the PDF may not be created by scanning a paper document, even if the scanning process produces it in a text-searchable format).

# (2) Case Administered in the Eugene Office.

- (A) A party objecting to confirmation of the debtor's plan must either:
  - (i) No later than five days before the first date set for the meeting of creditors, deliver, but not file, an objection to the trustee and debtor.
  - (ii) Attend the meeting of creditors and inform the debtor and trustee on the record of the objection.
- **(B)** No later than eight days after the meeting of creditors concludes, the trustee or any other party that still objects to confirmation must file and serve an objection on the debtor.
- (C) If no timely objection to the proposed plan is filed, the debtor must submit to the trustee a proposed confirmation order on <u>LBF #1350.05</u> no later than 16 days after the meeting of creditors concludes. The trustee must review, approve if appropriate, and lodge the proposed order no later than seven days after receipt. The court will review and consider entering an approved proposed order without a hearing.

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- **(D)** If the trustee recommends confirmation, but does not approve the form of the order, the trustee must immediately notify the debtor and promptly file an objection. The debtor may then make the changes requested by the trustee and resubmit the form of order to the trustee.
- (E) If the debtor is not current on preconfirmation plan payments when the debtor sends the proposed confirmation order to the trustee, the trustee must not lodge the order, and must file an objection to confirmation.
- (F) If a party objects to confirmation due to the debtor's failure to file tax returns, the debtor must file the required returns no later than eight days before the date set for the confirmation hearing.
- (G) A final hearing on confirmation will be held, without further notice, on the date set for the confirmation hearing in the notice of the meeting of creditors unless the court has previously entered a confirmation order. Testimony may be offered, and received if admissible, at the hearing.

## Rule 3016-1. Chapter 11—Accelerated Case.

The court will, if appropriate, enter an order designating a case for accelerated treatment.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Chapter 11—Effect of a Claim Objection on Allowance of a Claim for Voting Purposes LBR 3007-1(b).
- Chapter 11—Small Business; Creditors' Committee LBR 1020-1.
- Chapter 11—Small Business; Disclosure Statement LBR 3017.1-1.

## Rule 3017-1. Chapter 11—Disclosure Statement Hearing.

After a plan and disclosure statement are filed, the court will prepare a notice of disclosure statement hearing and deliver it to the proponent for service.

### **Cross-references:**

- Chapter 11—Effect of a Claim Objection on Allowance of a Claim for Voting Purposes LBR 3007-1(b).
- Chapter 11—Small Business; Disclosure Statement LBR 3017.1-1.

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## Rule 3017.1-1. Chapter 11—Small Business; Disclosure Statement.

The following procedures apply to a debtor's request either for a determination that no separate disclosure statement is required because the plan provides adequate information, or for conditional approval of the disclosure statement:

- (a) No later than 14 days before the filing of the plan and, if applicable, the disclosure statement, the debtor must serve a copy of those documents on the UST, creditors' committee, any involved taxing authority, secured creditors, and any entity that has requested all notices. No later than seven days after service, the parties served must inform the debtor of any objection to approval of the disclosure statement, or to the disclosure aspects of a plan combined with a disclosure statement.
- (b) If the debtor seeks conditional approval of a disclosure statement, the debtor must file the disclosure statement and plan in a form to which the UST has agreed.
- (c) When filed, the plan and, if applicable, disclosure statement must be accompanied by a certificate on LBF #1165.5.
- (d) If no timely objection under (a) remains unresolved, the court may determine that a separate disclosure statement is not necessary or may conditionally approve the disclosure statement. The court will prepare an order regarding the disclosure statement and notice of a confirmation hearing, and deliver it to the debtor for service.

### **Cross-references:**

- Chapter 11—Effect of a Claim Objection on Allowance of a Claim for Voting Purposes LBR 3007-1(b).
- Chapter 11—Small Business; Creditors' Committee LBR 1020-1.

# Rule 3018-1. Chapter 11—Acceptance or Rejection of Plan.

- (a) Ballot. The ballot for acceptance or rejection of a plan must set apart the following text in bold and capitalized print: "THIS FORM DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A PROOF OF CLAIM AND MUST NOT BE USED TO FILE A CLAIM OR TO INCREASE ANY AMOUNT LISTED IN THE DEBTOR'S SCHEDULES." A completed ballot must be submitted to the plan proponent.
- **Notice of Initial Confirmation Hearing.** After approval of a disclosure statement, the court will prepare a notice of confirmation hearing and deliver it to the proponent for service.

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- **Motion for Temporary Allowance of Disputed Claim or Interest.** No later than 30 days after service of the initial notice of disclosure statement hearing, a claimant requesting temporary allowance of a claim subject to a pending objection for the purpose of accepting or rejecting a plan must file and serve a motion for temporary claim allowance.
- (d) Summary of Acceptances and Rejections. A plan proponent must file a summary on <u>LBF</u> #1181 no later than three business days before the date set for the confirmation hearing.

## Rule 3019-1. Chapter 11—Plan or Disclosure Statement Amendment.

A proposed amended plan or disclosure statement must be:

- (a) Entitled a "(insert First, Second, etc.) Amended Plan or Disclosure Statement."
- (b) Preceded by a separate document containing the old and new language set out separately in different forms (e.g., by striking through deleted language and highlighting new language, or bracketing deleted language and underlining new language) and describing on the first page of the document the method of notation.
- (c) Complete, including each proposed amendment.
- (d) Signed and dated.

# Rule 3020-1. Chapter 11—Confirmation; Report of Administrative Expenses & Confirmation Order.

- (a) Report of Administrative Expenses. A plan proponent must file a report on <u>LBF #1182</u> no later than three business days before the date set for the confirmation hearing.
- (b) Confirmation Order.
  - (1) General. A proposed confirmation order must be:
    - (A) Prepared by the plan's proponent.
    - (B) Specific as to the amount of unpaid fees due to the clerk, and require payment no later than 14 days after the order is entered.
    - (C) Lodged no later than seven days after the final confirmation hearing.
  - **Notice of Confirmation.** No less than 30 days, nor more than 45 days, after entry of a confirmation order, the proponent must prepare and file a notice on LBF #1190.

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## Rule 3022-1. Chapter 11—Final Decree.

The filing of a final account means the estate has been fully administered, a final decree may be entered, and the case may be closed without further notice.

#### Cross-references:

- Chapter 11—Discharge for Individual LBR 4004-1(b).
- Chapter 11—Final Account LBR 2015-1(c).

# Rule 4001-1. Relief From Automatic Stay; Use of Cash Collateral; Obtaining Credit; Agreements; Rental Cure Deposits.

- (a) Chapter 7—Nonjudicial Relief from Automatic Stay.
  - (1) Request. An entity claiming an interest in property of the estate or property in the possession of the debtor or trustee may request nonjudicial relief from the automatic stay of §362(a) under LBF #715.
  - **Objection.** An objection must not be filed with the court. An objection to a request, unless made at the meeting of creditors, must be in writing and contemporaneously delivered to only the debtor, the trustee, and the entity requesting relief. If the trustee receives a timely objection, the trustee must not grant nonjudicial relief unless the objection is withdrawn in writing.
  - (3) Granting and Effect of Nonjudicial Relief. If permitted under LBF #715, the trustee may grant nonjudicial relief from stay by executing LBF #750. A grant of nonjudicial relief constitutes termination of the stay of an act against the subject property. An LBF #750 need not be filed to become effective. The trustee will not be deemed to have abandoned or waived any interest or other rights in the property by executing LBF #750. Any nonexempt equity in the property remains property of the estate, and any exempt equity remains property of the debtor.
- (b) Motion for Relief From Debtor or Codebtor Stay.
  - (1) General. A motion for relief from a debtor stay must not be combined with any other motion or alternative relief request, except for relief from a codebtor stay.
  - (2) Motion Content, Notice of Motion, Response, and Order Thereon. A motion, and any response or order thereon, must be filed under LBF #720.50.

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- (3) Sanctions for Improper Notice of Hearing. The court may refuse to consider a timely response to a motion for relief from stay filed in a chapter 7 or 13 case, or may impose other sanctions, if the response is not filed under LBF #720.50.
- (c) Motion for Authority to Use Cash Collateral, or for Authority to Obtain Credit.
  - (1) General. A motion must be filed under LBF #541.50.
  - (2) **Preliminary or Emergency Hearing.** When a preliminary or emergency hearing is necessary, the motion must be filed under LBF #541.51.
- Agreement Relating to Relief From the Automatic Stay, Providing Adequate Protection, Use of Cash Collateral, or Obtaining Credit. A notice under LBR 2002-1(b) of intent to submit a proposed order approving an agreement must be given, but the time for filing an objection shall be as specified in FRBP 4001(d).
- (e) Debtor's Consent to Relief From Stay re Property to be Surrendered. Marking the "Property Will be Surrendered" box on a debtor's chapter 7 statement of intention form (LBF #521.05) as to any property constitutes the debtor's consent to relief from the automatic stay with regard to that property. Relief from stay will be effective at the earliest of the following: (1) the granting of judicial or nonjudicial relief from stay, (2) physical surrender of the property by the debtor, or (3) expiration of the time deadlines in §521.
- (f) Rent Deposit by Debtor for Cure Under §362(1)(1).
  - (1) **Petition Filing Method.** A debtor's petition accompanied by a deposit of rent under §362(1)(1) must not be filed electronically. The deposit must be submitted under (2). However, documents that are not required to be filed with the petition (e.g., schedules or statements) must be filed electronically if the filer is an ECF Participant.
  - (2) **Deposit Requirements.** The deposit must:
    - (A) Be submitted only in the form of a cashier's check or money order made payable to the landlord.
    - **(B)** Not be deposited or otherwise negotiated by the clerk.
    - (C) Be sent, promptly after receipt, by the clerk using first-class mail to the landlord identified in the petition at the address in the petition, with the transmittal recorded on the docket.

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- (g) Motion or Objection to Extend or Impose Stay Under §362(c), §362(l), §362(m), or §362(n).
  - (1) General. A motion under §362(c), §362(l), or §362(n), or an objection under §362(m), must be filed under LBF #721.3.
  - (2) Timing re §362(c)(3). A motion to extend the stay under §362(c)(3) must be filed no later than seven days after the order for relief.
- (h) Motion for Order Confirming Stay is Not in Effect Under §362(j). A motion for an order under §362(j) must be filed on LBF #720.95.
- (i) Chapter 7 Trustee's Motion for Continuation of Stay re Personal Property.
  - (1) A motion under either §362(h)(2) or §521(a)(6) must: (A) clearly identify in the title the Code section relied on for the motion (i.e., either §362(h)(2) or §521(a)(6)), and (B) include the name and service address for any affected creditor.
  - If a timely motion is filed under §362(h)(2) or §521(a)(6) regarding personal property identified as collateral for a secured debt included on a debtor's statement of intention (LBF #521.05), the stay of §362(a) will continue as to the property until the date an order granting the motion is entered or a different date is determined by the court.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Motion Practice—Contested Matters LBR 9013-1.
- Proposed Order if No Objection Filed Timely LBR 2002-1(h).
- Proposed Order or Judgment LBR 9021-1(a).

## **Rule 4003-1.** [**Reserved**]

## Rule 4003-2. Lien Avoidance Under §522(f).

If not addressed as part of a chapter 12 or 13 plan, a motion to avoid a lien under §522(f), and any objection, must be filed under LBF #717.15.

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## Rule 4004-1. Grant or Denial of Discharge.

- (a) Hardship Discharge. A debtor moving for a hardship discharge under §1141(d), §1228(b), or §1328(b) must file and serve a notice of the motion on LBF #1378.
- (b) Chapter 11 Discharge for Individual. To obtain a discharge, upon completion of all payments under the plan a debtor that is an individual must file a motion for entry of discharge on LBF #1191.3, and, if the case is closed, contemporaneously file a motion to reopen the case and pay the required reopening fee.
- **Determination of §522(q)(1) Applicability.** A motion to determine that a discharge should not be granted under §727(a)(12), §1228(f), or §1328(h) must be filed either: (1) no later than 60 days after the first date set for the meeting of creditors in a chapter 7 case, or (2) as required by order or notice in a chapter 11, 12, or 13 case.
- (d) Effect of Failure to Timely File a Certification or Obtain an Order Determining that §522(q)(1) Applies. A debtor's case may be closed without entry of a discharge if either: (1) the debtor is required, but fails, to timely file a certification required under LBRs 1007-1(c)(4) or (5), or (2) the court enters an order determining a debtor's discharge not be entered in the ordinary course because §522(q)(1) is applicable. If the debtor either subsequently satisfies all requirements regarding the certifications, or has a change of circumstances regarding §522(q)(1) applicability, the debtor may request entry of discharge by contemporaneously filing either each required certification or a motion for entry of discharge (whichever is applicable), filing a motion to reopen the case, and paying the required reopening fee.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Chapter 13—Deadline for Certification of Completion of Financial Management Course <u>LBR 1007-1(c)</u>.
- Chapter 12 or 13—Deadline for Certification of Payment of Domestic Support Obligations and Statement re §522(q)(1) Applicability <u>LBR 1007-1(c)</u>.
- Reaffirmation Agreements LBR 4008-1.

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## Rule 4008-1. Reaffirmation Agreements.

- (a) General. A debtor who wants to reaffirm a debt under §524(c) must file an agreement on LBF #718.5 (or OBF #B240A) no later than 60 days after the first date set for the meeting of creditors.
- **(b) Cover Sheet.** LBF #718.05 must be attached as a cover sheet to each agreement.
- **(c) Court Administration.** If a debtor does not timely file an agreement accompanied by any required cover sheet, the court may enter the debtor's discharge and promptly close the case.

### **Rule 5001-1.** [**Reserved**]

## **Rule 5001-2. Clerk—Document Filing Location.**

- **Petition.** Except in an emergency, a paper petition must be filed in the appropriate office of the court. The appropriate office is either:
  - (1) The Eugene office, at the address on the court's Web site at <a href="www.orb.uscourts.gov">www.orb.uscourts.gov</a>, for a debtor residing in or having its principal place of business in Benton, Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, or Polk county.
  - (2) The Portland office, at the address on the court's Web site, for a debtor residing in or having its principal place of business in any other Oregon county.
- **(b) Other Documents.** Except in an emergency, a paper document must be filed in the office where the case or adversary proceeding is being administered.

## Rule 5003-1. Clerk—General/Authority.

The clerk and designated deputies may sign and enter the following orders without further court authorization:

- (a) Requiring the filing of missing documents.
- (b) Closing case and discharging trustee in a case in which the trustee has reported the estate has no assets to administer or in which an order has been entered approving the trustee's final account.

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- (c) Directing the debtor to appear at a hearing to show cause why a case should not be dismissed or converted, or other appropriate relief ordered should not be granted, when the debtor has failed timely to comply with an order, FRBP, or LBR.
- (d) Permitting the debtor to pay filing fees in installments and setting the number, amount, and dates of payment of each installment.
- (e) Directing payment of court costs.
- **(f)** Refunding an erroneously tendered fee when appropriate.
- **(g)** Correcting a clerical error.
- (h) An order authorized by a judge.

# Rule 5003-2. Removal of Court Papers.

No person may remove papers from any court file, or remove any court file from any office of the court or the federal archives, except for claims files provided to panel or standing trustees for audit purposes.

# Rule 5005-1. Document Filing—Facsimile or E-Mail.

A document must not be sent to the clerk or the court by facsimile or e-mail, and the clerk must not file a copy of a document received by facsimile or e-mail.

## **Cross-references:**

- Adversary Proceedings—General LBR 7001-1.
- Caption—Document LBR 9004-2.
- Electronic Filing LBR 5005-4.
- Filing Location LBR 5001-2.
- Involuntary Petition LBR 1010-1.
- Lists, Schedules, and Statements LBRs 1007-1,-2 and -3 and 1009-1.
- Requirements of Form LBR 9004-1.
- Voluntary Petition LBRs 1002-1 and 1005-1.

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## Rules 5005-2. [Reserved]

# Rules 5005-3. [Reserved]

## Rule 5005-4. Electronic Filing.

(a) Administrative Procedures. The Administrative Procedures for the Electronic Case File System (Administrative Procedures) (LBF #125) govern ECF and its use, and govern in the event of a conflict between the Administrative Procedures and an LBR, LBF, or GO. Each provision and procedure in the most current version of the Administrative Procedures available when a document is filed applies to filing the document.

# (b) Mandatory Electronic Filing.

- (1) An attorney or trustee who files or lodges documents must do so electronically using ECF except as provided under an LBR or the Administrative Procedures.
- (2) An attorney unable to file electronically may apply for a waiver of the requirement to file electronically either for a limited time or for the duration of a specific case or adversary proceeding. A request must be made by letter addressed to the clerk showing good cause to file and serve documents on paper, and explaining why the attorney is unable to comply, the steps being taken to be able to comply, and how long those steps will take. The chief judge or a designee will act upon the request.
- An ECF Participant must purchase, install, use, and regularly update anti-virus software (i.e., at least weekly and immediately upon notification of any anti-virus software update) at all locations from which the Participant accesses ECF or PACER. Each electronic filing, including a disk for a mailing matrix, must be inspected for, and free from, viruses and worms before filing or other transmittal.
- (4) Unless local counsel is an ECF Participant who will be responsible for filing and lodging documents, an attorney appearing *pro hac vice* must register to become an authorized ECF Participant no later than 14 days after entry of the order authorizing the attorney's appearance, and promptly begin electronic filing and lodging or comply with the procedure in (2).
- (5) In the event of an unanticipated inability to use ECF due to a noncourt technical failure, the ECF Participant must prepare and submit a certification regarding inaccessibility with each document filed or lodged on paper.

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- (6) In the event of an unanticipated inability to use ECF due to the court's technical failure, the ECF Participant must prepare and submit a certification of that inability with each document filed or lodged on paper.
- An ECF Participant must keep the Participant's unique ECF information current at all times (e.g., name, service address, contact name and telephone number). An ECF Participant must also maintain adequate e-mail capacity (e.g., for receipt of notices and service). A failure to do so will not relieve the ECF Participant of any provision in an LBR, a GO, an LBF, the Administrative Procedures, or a related document.
- (8) An ECF Participant is solely responsible for the accuracy and completeness of, and any necessary redaction as to, all data the ECF Participant electronically enters into ECF, and for effecting any required amendment and notice of amendment.

## (c) Effect of Electronic Filing.

- (1) A paper document is the official record of the filing of the document until the document has been electronically entered into ECF. After entry into ECF, the clerk will destroy the paper document.
- An electronically filed document will be deemed to have been signed as required by FRBP 9011 by the ECF Participant whose name is associated with the login name used for the filing. An ECF Participant is solely responsible for the use and control of the ECF Participant's login and password.
- (d) ECF Participant Waiver. By accepting an ECF login and password an ECF Participant waives the right to receive notice or other documents, including notice of the entry of an order or judgment under FRBP 9022, by any manner other than electronically, and agrees to accept all service electronically, except the use of paper is required for service of a summons or complaint under FRBP 7004 or a subpoena under FRBP 9016.
- (e) Retention of Original Document. An electronically filed document that includes a signature requiring a verification under FRBP 1008 or an unsworn declaration (e.g., signed under penalty of perjury under 28 U.S.C. §1746) must be maintained in its original paper form for ten years by the filing ECF Participant or the firm representing the party on whose behalf the document was filed, except as otherwise provided for trustees by the U.S. Department of Justice. The filing ECF Participant must produce the original document for review upon receipt of a written request.

## (f) Filing Deadline for Electronically Filed Document or Docket Entry.

(1) Filing electronically does not alter the filing deadline. Electronic filing must be completed before midnight Pacific time to be considered filed on that day.

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(2) An ECF Participant whose filing is untimely due to a technical failure of a court-controlled aspect of the ECF system may seek appropriate relief from the court.

## Rule 5007-1. Record of Proceeding.

LBR 9017-1(f) applies.

Cross-reference: Transcript - LBR 5077-1.

# Rule 5009-1. Final Report/Account.

LBR 2015-1 applies.

Cross-reference: Notice to Creditors and Other Interested Parties - LBR 2002-1.

# Rule 5009-2. Closing Case.

The clerk must close a case otherwise ready for closing, but in which a motion is pending, upon the earlier of either:

- (a) Entry of all dispositive orders.
- (b) Thirty days after the latest of (1) expiration of all deadlines for filing objections, (2) the completion date of all required hearings, or (3) the date of the last docketed court request for a party's submission of a dispositive order on a matter.

# Rule 5010-1. Reopening Case.

- (a) General. A motion to reopen a case must include the debtor's current mailing address, and must be accompanied by the applicable filing fee.
- (b) Chapter 13—Motion to Reopen Case or Vacate Dismissal. A motion must be on <u>LBF</u> #1367.92, and must be accompanied by the applicable filing fee. If a motion is granted, the chapter 13 standing trustee will be the trustee.

#### Rule 5011-1. Withdrawal of Reference.

LBR 9033-1 applies.

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#### Rule 5011-2. Abstention.

A motion for abstention must be accompanied by an affidavit demonstrating compliance with 28 U.S.C. §1334(c) and LR 2100.

## **Rule 5072-1.** [**Reserved**]

# Rule 5072-2. Court Security—Prohibition against Possession of Firearms, Weapons, or Other Disruptive or Disabling Devices.

No individual may possess any firearm, weapon, or other disruptive or disabling device in the clerk's office, any judge's chambers, or courtroom area unless specifically authorized by court order. "Courtroom area" includes courtrooms, hallways, elevators, stairwells, and all other areas available for any use by the public or court personnel.

# Rule 5073-1. Photography, Recording Devices, Broadcasting, & Wireless Communication Devices.

- **General.** The taking of photographs, audio or video taping in, or live broadcasting from, the clerk's office, any judge's chambers, or a courtroom area as defined in <u>LBR 5072-2</u> is prohibited. The equipment to do those things, other than cellular phones and computers that have built-in cameras, must not be brought into a courtroom area.
- **(b) Wireless Communication Devices.** A wireless communication device must be turned off while in a courtroom. A "wireless communication device" includes a mobile phone, iPod, MP3 player, and a personal digital assistant (PDA). A wireless communication device may be turned on when not in a courtroom, but the device must not record, receive, or send audio, video images, pictures, signals, or movies at any time when inside a courtroom area.
- **Sanction.** Violation of this LBR may result in the offending device being confiscated by United States Marshal's Office personnel, and the violator referred to the court for contempt or other sanction proceedings.

## Rule 5077-1. Transcript.

- (a) Redaction. LBR 9037-1 applies.
- (b) Testimony Electronically Recorded by Court Personnel. A request for a transcript or recording of a hearing, other than of a meeting of creditors, must be in writing, made on <u>LBF</u> #335 (Hearing Transcript Order Form) or <u>LBF</u> #335.5 (Hearing CD Order Form).

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- **Testimony Taken by Court Reporter.** The court reporter must be contacted directly to make arrangements for the preparation of a transcript.
- (d) Meeting of Creditors. The UST must be contacted for a transcript or recording.

**Cross-reference:** Use of Electronically Recorded Testimony - LBR 9017-1(f).

# Rule 5078-1. Copy—Document.

- (a) General. A conventional, certified, or exemplified paper copy of an electronically filed document may be obtained at the clerk's office. An appropriately sized SASE must accompany each request unless the requesting party picks up the document at the clerk's office no later than 4:00 p.m. on the business day after it is prepared.
- **Conformed Copy.** The entity filing a paper document may request a conformed copy of that document by simultaneously providing the clerk: (1) a copy of the document; (2) a declaration that the copy is identical to the filed document; and (3) a SASE. A declaration may be a separate document or a signed notation on the first page of the copy.

# Rule 6004-1. Use, Sale, or Lease of Property.

- (a) Notice. LBR 2002-1(b) applies to a notice required under FRBP 6004.
- **(b)** Report of Property Sale. The statement required by FRBP 6004(f)(1) must be filed no later than 28 days after a sale of estate property, unless the required information is in a monthly chapter 11 financial report or on LBF #740 for a chapter 7 private sale.
- (c) Sale of Publicly Held Securities by Chapter 7 Trustee. A chapter 7 trustee may, without notice or order, redeem bonds, sell publicly traded securities, and exercise or sell options on an established market and compensate a licensed stockbroker or other licensed noninsider institutional broker, at standard industry rates not to exceed \$3,000.

# Rule 6005-1. Appraisers & Auctioneers.

# [Reserved]

## **Cross-references:**

- Chapter 7 or 11—Employment of Professional LBR 2014-1.
- Compensation and Expenses LBR 2016-1.

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# Rule 6006-1. Executory Contracts & Unexpired Leases; Assumption, Rejection, or Assignment.

- (a) Chapter 7, 9, or 11. A party moving to assume, reject, or assign, or to compel the debtor or trustee to assume, reject, or assign an executory contract or unexpired lease, other than a chapter 7 trustee (who must use the appropriate LBF) or a chapter 11 plan proponent who is so moving in a plan of reorganization, must serve the motion attached to a notice of intent prepared under LBR 2002-1(b). The notice and motion must be served on all parties to the contract or lease, debtor, trustee, and any creditors' committee.
- **(b) Chapter 12 or 13.** A debtor may provide in a plan for assumption, rejection, or assignment of an executory contract or unexpired lease. When filed, the plan must be contemporaneously served on all parties to a contract or lease to be assumed, rejected, or assigned in the plan.

#### Rule 6007-1. Abandonment.

A trustee must use the appropriate LBF when filing under §554(a). A party requesting relief under §554(b) must give notice under LBR 2002-1(b) of its intent to submit a proposed order to compel abandonment, and must contemporaneously serve documents evidencing the interest of that party and any perfection of a security interest, on the trustee and any creditors' committee.

## Rule 6008-1. Redemption.

A motion to redeem estate property, and any response, must be filed under LBF #717.10.

## Rule 7001-1. Adversary Proceedings—General.

- **Filing Fee.** The applicable filing fee must accompany an adversary complaint, except one filed by a debtor that is not a DIP, the UST, a child support creditor or its representative that files an OBF #281, or a trustee that files a certification that estate funds are insufficient to pay the filing fee. The fee waiver provisions of 28 U.S.C. §1930 do not apply to adversary proceeding fees.
- (b) Documents.
  - (1) General Form Requirements. LBR 9004-1 applies.

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- (2) Cover Sheet. To file an adversary proceeding, or file a stipulated judgment if no complaint has been filed, a party filing on paper must file an adversary proceeding cover sheet (e.g., on LBF #APCS-B104) with the complaint or proposed judgment.
- (3) Summons For Complaint Filed Electronically. The clerk may sign, seal, and issue a summons electronically, although a plaintiff must not serve a summons electronically. The clerk may use ECF to notify the plaintiff when an electronic summons has been issued for service.
- (c) Impermissible Stipulations. The following deadlines and dates cannot be changed without an order obtained no later than three business days before the scheduled deadline or date:
  - (1) Deadlines established by a scheduling order.
  - (2) Court hearing date.
  - (3) Pretrial order lodging deadline.
  - (4) Deadlines for filing trial briefs, exhibits, or witness lists.
  - (5) Trial date.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Alternative Dispute Resolution—Mediation LBR 9019-2.
- Jury Trial LBR 9015-1 and LR 2100.
- Removal or Remand LBR 9027-1.
- Sanctions & Remedies LBR 9011-3.
- Use of Electronically Recorded Testimony LBR 9017-1(f).

Rule 7003-1. Cover Sheet.

LBR 7001-1 applies.

Rule 7004-1. [Reserved]

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#### Rule 7004-2. Summons.

<u>LBR 7001-1(b)</u> applies.

#### Rule 7005-1. Service & Certificate of Service.

## (a) Service Requirements.

- (1) A document served on an entity must also be served on an attorney of record for the entity.
- When service of a document prepared and filed by an entity is required, the service must be made contemporaneously with the act of filing.
- (3) When the court delivers a notice to serve a document to an entity, service must be made under the notice.
- (4) <u>LBR 2002-1</u> applies.

# (b) Certificate of Service.

- (1) General. A certificate of service must be incorporated in, attached to, or accompany, each filed document or group of documents when service of the document or documents is required. However, if a period of time in which a response will be timely begins to run on the service date, the certificate of service itself must be served with the document to which it refers unless the service date is clearly set out in the document. A paper copy of a filed document must be served on all nonECF Participants entitled to notice or service.
- **Content.** Unless the document is an LBF which includes a certificate, a certificate of service must include (1) a clearly identified list of the names, addresses, and methods for service on all parties served using paper, and (2) if served by an ECF Participant, a separate clearly identified list of the names of all parties served electronically.

# Rule 7005-2. Nonfiling of Discovery Material.

LBR 7026-1 applies.

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#### Rule 7007-1. Motion Practice—Adversary Proceedings.

# (a) Prefiling Conference Certification.

- (1) The first paragraph of a motion, except one for a temporary restraining order, must certify that either:
  - (A) The parties made a good-faith effort through personal or telephone conferences to resolve the dispute and have been unable to do so.
  - **(B)** The movant made reasonable efforts to confer and the opposing party refused, including a description of the efforts made.
  - (C) The movant or opposing party is a prisoner not represented by an attorney.
- (2) The court may deny any motion that fails to meet the certification requirement in (1).
- (3) A party filing a motion must state "UNOPPOSED" in the caption if the other parties to the action do not oppose the motion.

# (b) Brief Supporting Nondiscovery Motion, Opposition Statement, or Reply.

- (1) General. A brief must:
  - (A) Be a separate document.
  - **(B)** Contain a statement of the questions to be decided, setting forth succinctly the relevant facts and argument with supporting authorities.
  - (C) Not have substantive argument in a footnote.
  - **(D)** Be accompanied by one or more separate affidavits or declarations, not exceeding a total of 20 pages in length exclusive of exhibits, supporting factual contentions.
  - (E) Not exceed 20 pages in length exclusive of exhibits unless the court authorizes an over-length document. A motion to authorize the filing of an over-length document must be filed no later than three business days before the document's filing deadline. An over-length brief more than 20 pages in length must have a table of contents and a table of cases with page references.

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(2) Exhibits. An exhibit attached to a brief must be limited to document excerpts that are directly germane to an argument the brief advances. An excerpt must be identified as such. An entity attaching a document excerpt as a brief exhibit may do so without prejudice to its right to file additional excerpts or the complete document. Responding parties may timely file additional relevant excerpts. The court may also require parties to file additional excerpts or the complete document.

# (3) Timing Requirements.

- **(A) Opposition.** Any opposition statement and supporting brief must be filed and served no later than 14 days after service of a nondiscovery motion.
- **(B) Reply.** No reply may be filed, except for one in support of a motion for summary judgment which must be filed and served no later than 14 days after service of the opposition.
- (4) **Further Briefing.** No further briefing is allowed.
- (c) Expedited Hearing Motion. A motion must include:
  - (1) An explanation why it is necessary.
  - A certificate of service showing the motion was served by hand delivery, facsimile, or e-mail, contemporaneously with the filing of it under FRBPs 7004 and 7005.
  - (3) A certification that either: (A) the movant has conferred with the opposing party and obtained agreement to an expedited hearing, or (B) describes the steps taken in a good-faith attempt to confer with the opposing party regarding the need for an expedited hearing and any response of the opposing party.

# (d) Oral Argument/Telephone Appearance.

- (1) **Hearing.** The court may decide a motion without oral argument. If the court elects to hear oral argument, the court will notify the parties of the hearing date and time.
- (2) Request for Oral Argument. A party must clearly endorse any request for oral argument in the title of the motion, statement in opposition, or reply to the statement.
- (3) Request for Telephone Argument. A party may request, no less than three business days before the hearing date, to participate in an oral argument by telephone.

#### **Cross-references:**

Discovery Brief - LBR 7037-1.

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- Documents—Requirements of Form LBR 9004-1.
- Exhibits LBRs 9004-1(a)(9) and 9017-1.
- Motion Practice—Contested Matters LBR 9013-1.
- Summary Judgment <u>LBR 7056-1</u>.

# Rule 7015-1. Amended Pleading.

LBR 9004-1 applies.

# Rule 7016-1. Pretrial Procedure—Proposed Pretrial Order.

If the court requires a pretrial order, then <u>LR 2100</u> (re jury trials), <u>LR 16.2</u>, and <u>LRs 16.6(b)</u>, <u>(c)</u>, <u>and (d)</u> apply, but any reference to a magistrate judge must be read as a reference to a bankruptcy judge.

## Rule 7024-1. [Reserved]

# Rule 7024-2. Unconstitutionality, Claim of.

LBR 9005.1-1 applies.

# Rule 7026-1. Discovery—General.

- (a) Required Service of LBR. The plaintiff must serve a copy of this LBR with the summons and complaint.
- (b) Timing.
  - (1) Commencement. Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, no discovery may occur before an initial pretrial conference or entry of a scheduling order. Parties need not meet before an initial pretrial conference. Discovery may begin when the court determines that FRCP 26(f) will not apply. If the court determines that FRCP 26(f) will apply, discovery may begin after the parties have met and conferred.
  - (2) Completion. The LR regarding completion of discovery (currently LR 16.2) applies.

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- **(c) Nonfiling of Discovery Documents.** "Discovery documents" must not be filed. Discovery documents include required and optional disclosures described in FRCP 26, deposition notices, transcripts, exhibits, interrogatories, requests for production or inspection, requests for admission, answers, and objections. Not filing a discovery document does not preclude its use as an exhibit or as evidence.
- (d) Disclosures Required by FRCPs 26(a)(1)-(4).
  - (1) Application of FRCPs 26(a)(1)-(3). The court will determine at the initial pretrial conference or in a scheduling order whether FRCPs 26(a)(1)-(3) will apply.
  - (2) Application of FRCP 26(a)(4). Disclosures must comply with the provisions of FRCP 26(a)(4), but the disclosures required by FRCPs 26(a)(1) and (2) must not be filed.
- **(e) Discovery Planning Meeting.** If the court orders that FRCP 26(f) applies, the parties may use FRCP form #52 or another form on which they agree for the written report of the discovery plan.
- (f) Timeliness of Objection or Motion to Compel. An objection to the adequacy of a discovery response, or a motion to compel or for other relief with respect to a discovery request, must be filed by the earlier of either the discovery completion deadline, or 14 days after the motion or response. Failure to object timely to a motion or response constitutes a waiver of any objection.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Contested Matters <u>LBR</u> 9013-1(e).
- Depositions & Examinations LBR 2004-1.
- Failure to Make Disclosure or Cooperate in Discovery; Sanctions LBR 7037-1.
- Interrogatories LBR 7033-1.
- Production of Documents and Things & Entry on Land for Inspection or Other Purpose LBR 7034-1.
- Request for Admission LBR 7036-1.

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## Rule 7030-1. Depositions.

LBR 2004-1 applies.

# Rule 7033-1. Interrogatories.

LR 33 applies.

# Rule 7034-1. Production of Documents and Things & Entry on Land for Inspection or Other Purpose.

LR 34 applies.

## Rule 7036-1. Request for Admission.

LR 36 applies.

# Rule 7037-1. Failure to Make Disclosure or Cooperate in Discovery; Sanctions.

- (a) Motion to Compel. LR 37 applies.
- (b) Discovery Motion.
  - (1) General. <u>LR 26.5</u> applies.
  - **Content.** A motion to compel discovery or for a protective order must set forth only the pertinent discovery request or response, and the legal arguments of the party.
  - (3) **Brief Length.** A motion to authorize filing an over-length discovery brief must be filed no later than three business days before the deadline to file the brief. Any brief more than ten pages in length must have tables of contents and of cases with page references.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Motion Relating to Deposition <u>LBR 7030-1</u>.
- Sanctions LBR 9011-3.

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#### Rule 7052-1. Findings & Conclusions.

<u>LBR 9021-1(a)</u> applies.

**Cross-reference:** Final District Court Determination of a Motion to Withdraw Reference or Change Venue - <u>LBR 9033-1</u>.

## Rule 7054-1. Costs and Fees—Taxation & Payment.

<u>LBR 9021-1(c)</u> applies.

#### Rule 7055-1. Default—Failure to Prosecute.

LBR 9021-1(a) applies.

# Rule 7056-1. Summary Judgment.

# (a) Motion.

- (1) Required Supporting Documents. A motion must be accompanied by the following two, separately filed, documents:
  - (A) A supporting brief addressing applicable law and explaining why there exist no genuine issues of material fact to be tried.
  - (B) A separately filed concise statement articulating only the undisputed relevant material facts essential for the court to decide the motion that is prepared under (c).
- **Required Judge's Copies.** Two paper copies, each certified as a true copy, of the motion and supporting documents, including tabs for the documents if there are more than two attachments or exhibits to any of the documents, must be promptly delivered to the court, and must be clearly marked "JUDGE'S COPY."
- (3) Filing Deadline. A motion must not be filed less than 50 days before the date set for trial. A motion to allow a filing less than 50 days before the trial date must include a detailed explanation why the motion could not have been filed earlier.

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# (b) Opposition and Reply Requirements.

- (1) Any opposition must be accompanied by a separately filed response to the concise statement that is no longer than five pages (unless approved by the court in advance), and responds to each numbered paragraph of the movant's facts by:
  - (A) Accepting or denying each fact in the movant's concise statement.
  - **(B)** If applicable, articulating opposition to the movant's contention or interpretation of the undisputed material fact.
- (2) After responding to the movant's numbered paragraphs, the responding party may concisely state under (c) other relevant material facts which are at issue or are otherwise necessary for the court to determine the motion.
- (3) The movant may reply under (1) to the responding party's additional facts.

### (c) Concise Statement.

- (1) Each fact must be stated in a separately numbered paragraph. A party must cite to a particular affidavit, deposition, or other document (including page and line number references) supporting the party's statement, or denial of the material fact.
- A party must refer only to the material facts necessary for the court to determine the limited issues presented in the motion and to no others.
- (3) Documents to which reference is made in the concise statement must not be filed in their entirety. Instead, the filing party must extract and highlight only the relevant parts of each referenced document. Photocopies of extracted pages, with appropriate identification and highlighting, will be adequate.
- Unless approved by the court in advance, neither the concise statement, nor any reply to a responding party's statement, may be longer than five pages.
- (d) Briefing Requirements. LBR 7007-1(b) applies.
- **(e) Scope of Judicial Review.** Unless otherwise required by law, when resolving a motion the court has no independent duty to search and consider any part of the court record not referenced in the concise statement.
- **(f) Admission of Material Facts.** For purposes of a motion, material facts in the concise statement of the movant, or in the response to the movant's concise statement, may be deemed admitted unless specifically denied or otherwise controverted by a separate concise statement of the opposing party.

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# Rule 7065-1. Injunctions—Application for Temporary Restraining Order or Preliminary Injunction.

An application must be made by motion, and must be a document separate from the complaint. This LBR does not alter the requirement to file an adversary proceeding as a prerequisite to injunctive relief in certain instances (see FRBP 7001).

#### Rule 7067-1. Registry Fund.

- (a) Procedure for Deposit into Court's Registry Fund.
  - (1) Motion. A motion must include the following:
    - (A) The amount of money to be deposited, the estimated length of time that the money will remain in the court, and any pertinent investment information.
    - **(B)** The name and address of each entity that may have a claim against the money, and of the attorney for any claimant.
    - (C) If the movant requests the money be invested in a specific interest-bearing instrument, the details regarding the interest-bearing instrument requested.
    - **(D)** If a specific depositary is desired, the name of the depositary, and a showing that the depositary is properly collateralized under §345(b).
  - (2) **Proposed Order.** An order must contain the information required by (1), and must bear on the first page, not less than 4" from the top and before any other text, the words "Form Approved," followed by a signature line for the financial deputy clerk.
  - (3) Deposit. The clerk must not accept any money for deposit into the court before entry of an order under (2). Upon entry of the order, the depositor must deliver to the Portland office of the court a paper conformed copy of the order, marked "For Immediate Delivery to the Financial Deputy Clerk," and a money order, cashier's check, or certified check payable to "Clerk, United States Bankruptcy Court" in the amount of the deposit. The clerk must deposit the money in an account or purchase a certificate of deposit from a depositary or issuing institution convenient to the clerk unless a depositary or issuing institution is specified in the order. The deposit must be in a federally insured or guaranteed account or obligation. If the sum to be deposited exceeds the federal deposit insurance limit, the clerk must not deposit the funds until the designated financial institution has filed the appropriate bond, and the financial deputy clerk has received a conformed copy of the order with the deposit and has verified that the deposit amount correlates to the order. The clerk must be the custodian of any passbook or certificate of deposit.

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(b) Court Fee. Each deposit of new principal into the registry fund must be held in an interest-bearing account, and a fee must be assessed against it in an amount specified by directive regarding deposited funds from the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts. The fee may be deducted periodically, must be deducted before any other distribution from the account, and will be subject to any subsequent exceptions or adjustments permitted or required by the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts.

# (c) Procedure for Withdrawing Deposited Funds.

- (1) Order. Monies will be disbursed by the clerk from the registry fund only under an order that bears on the first page, not less than 4" from the top and before any other text, the words "Form Approved," followed by a signature line for the financial deputy clerk, and that thereafter includes the following:
  - (A) The name, address, and tax identification number of each entity receiving the funds, and the name and address of any attorney for the entity.
  - (B) With respect to each entity who is to receive a disbursement, the amount to be paid, and to the extent that such amount does not include interest, the percentage of any accrued interest to be disbursed to each entity receiving accrued interest.
  - (C) The total amount of funds to be withdrawn if less than the total amount in the account.
- **Payment by Clerk.** After the clerk receives a copy of the order authorizing disbursement of registry fund monies, and after expiration of the time to file a notice of appeal, the clerk must disburse deposited funds by check payable to each entity entitled to the funds and any attorney of record for the payee. The check must be delivered to any attorney of record for a payee.

#### Rule 7069-1. Judgment—Execution.

To execute on a bankruptcy court money judgment, the judgment creditor must register the bankruptcy court judgment in an appropriate state or other nonbankruptcy court. The clerk must certify, at no cost, copies of documents required for registration or transcription of judgments. Certification at no cost is for the administrative convenience and economic efficiency of the court.

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#### Rule 8001-1. Notice of Appeal—District Court or BAP.

LR 2200 applies.

# Rule 8003-1. Motion for Leave to Appeal.

LR 2200 applies.

# Rule 8006-1. Designation of Record—Transcript Order.

LBR 5077-1 applies.

#### Rule 9001-1. Rules of Construction & Definitions.

Titles and headings are part of the LBRs. A word or phrase not otherwise defined in an LBR has the meaning and construction assigned to it in the Code or an FRBP unless the specific definitions below or the context require otherwise. All singular words include the plural, and any reference to one gender includes both genders. A list of items following a colon will generally be read to be joined by an "and." However, if the colon follows the word "either," the list will be read to be joined by an "or." The following definitions apply in these LBRs:

- (a) "§" means section of the Code.
- (b) "Attorney of record" and "lead attorney" have the meanings given in LBR 9010-1(a)(2).
- (c) "BAP" means Bankruptcy Appellate Panel of the Ninth Circuit.
- (d) "Brief" includes a memorandum of law.
- (e) "Case" includes all matters relating to a bankruptcy case including contested matters, and, when appropriate, related adversary proceedings.
- (f) "Clerk" means clerk of the court and any authorized deputy clerk.
- (g) "Court" means the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Oregon and not any particular judge.

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- (h) "Creditors' committee," when used in relation to the service of a document, and unless otherwise required by an FRBP, means either:
  - (1) If an attorney of record represents the committee, the attorney of record;
  - Any chairperson and any co-, alternate, or vice chairperson of any committee appointed by the UST listed in the UST's filed notice of appointment;
  - (3) If no chairperson, co-, alternate, or vice chairperson is named in the notice of appointment, then each committee member named in the notice; or
  - (4) If no committee is appointed, each creditor on the list filed under FRBP 1007(d).
- (i) "Debtor" means both debtors in a joint case.
- "DIP" means (1) the debtor in possession in a chapter 11 case in which no trustee has been appointed and is serving, and (2) the debtor in possession in a chapter 12 case in which the debtor has not been removed under §1204 without reinstatement.
- (k) "District court" means the United States District Court for the District of Oregon.
- (I) "Document" includes a pleading and any other paper that may be filed or lodged.
- (m) "ECF" means the court's Electronic Case File system.
- (n) "ECF Participant" means an individual to whom the clerk has assigned a login and password to file documents electronically by ECF.
- (o) "Electronically," when referring to a manner of filing or serving a document, means electronically by ECF.
- (p) "File," when used as a verb, means file with the clerk electronically or in writing.
- (q) "FRBP" means a Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure, and each Interim Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure in effect on August 8, 2008 until it is superseded by an FRBP.
- (r) "FRCP" means a Federal Rule of Civil Procedure.
- (s) "GO" means a general order promulgated by the court.
- (t) "LBF" means a form promulgated by the court.

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- (u) "LBR" means a local rule of the court.
- (v) "LR" means a local rule of the United States District Court for the District of Oregon.
- (w) "Lodge," when used as a verb, means lodged, but not filed, with the clerk.
- (x) "May" means has discretion to, is permitted to, or has a right to.
- (y) "Must" means is required to.
- (z) "Must not" means is required not to or is disallowed.
- (aa) "OBF" means an Official form promulgated by the Judicial Conference of the United States for bankruptcy cases or adversary proceedings, or a procedural Director's form promulgated by the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts.
- (bb) "OSB" means the Oregon State Bar.
- (cc) "Party" includes an entity requesting or opposing relief in a contested matter or adversary proceeding.
- (dd) "PDF" means text-based Portable Document Format (i.e., the PDF may not be created by scanning a paper document, even if the scanning process produces it in a text-searchable format, unless the original document could not be electronically created by, or a version electronically created by a third party could not be accessed by, the party filer).
- (ee) "Pro se" means a party not represented by an attorney of record.
- (ff) "Request," when used in reference to a request for the court to take some action, means a requirement to file a formal motion.
- (gg) "SASE" means an adequately sized, self-addressed, envelope bearing adequate postage for return to the addressee. Submission of self-adhesive labels is not acceptable.
- (hh) "Trustee" means a private trustee, standing trustee, UST acting as a case trustee, or DIP.
- (ii) "Under" means in compliance with, or in accordance with, the provisions of the specified rule, form, or statute.
- (jj) "UST" means the United States trustee.

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#### Rule 9004-1. Documents—Requirements of Form.

- (a) General Requirements.
  - **(1) Size.** 
    - (A) Page Size. Each page of a document must be  $8\frac{1}{2}$ "x11".
    - **(B) Type.** The type size used in a document, including in a footnote, must be no smaller than either ten characters per inch or 12 point.
  - (2) Margins. Each page, other than a notice or one based on an LBF that provides otherwise, must have a top and bottom margin of at least 1", and side margins of at least 3/4". The top margin on the first page of any document to be signed by a judge must be 4", and devoid of all text except for optional line numbers, which must not be more than 3/4" from the left edge.
  - (3) Paper. A document must not be filed on "onion skin" or bond type paper.
  - **Text Color.** Text in a document and in an exhibit must appear only in black or dark blue, unless the court provides another color in a "fillable" LBF.
  - (5) Spacing.
    - (A) Text in the body, other than in a notice or LBF, must be double-spaced.
    - **(B)** A quotation of four or more lines must be indented and single-spaced.
  - **(6) Legibility.** A document, including an exhibit or a copy, must be typed, printed, or otherwise prepared using a legible reproduction process.
  - (7) Length. LBR 7007-1(b) regarding the length of a brief in support of a nondiscovery motion applies to a brief filed in a contested matter.
  - **(8) Double-Sided Documents.** Each page of a document filed on paper must be submitted with text on only one side. Text on the back of a page will not be made part of the official court record. A double-sided copy, including legal-turn, is permitted for service of a paper copy on a nonECF Participant.

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- (9) Exhibits.
  - (A) General. An exhibit to a document filed on paper must be attached to the document and be legible without detachment. An exhibit too bulky for attachment must be labeled by the case or adversary proceeding number, document title, number, and the name of the party presenting it. LBR 7007-1(b)(2) applies to contested matters.
  - (B) Pagination. An exhibit to a document must be consecutively marked in the lower-left margin using the exhibit letter or number, page number of the exhibit, and total number of pages in the exhibit (e.g., Ex. A pg. 1 of 3). LBR 9017-1(b) applies to an exhibit for use in a hearing or trial.
- (10) Facsimile and E-Mail Filing. A document must not be filed by facsimile or e-mail.
- (11) Footnotes. LBRs 7007-1(b)(1) and 9004-1(a)(1)(B) apply.
- (12) Required Information.
  - (A) Party Information. The name, address, telephone number, and capacity of the party that prepared a document—or of the party's attorney, in which case the information must include the attorney's OSB#—must be printed single-spaced in the upper-left corner of the title page and begin at least 1" from the top of the page of a document except for a petition, list, schedule, notice, statement of affairs, document to be signed by a judge, or a document prepared on an LBF or an OBF. On a document prepared by more than one party, reference may be made to the signature page for a complete list of parties submitting the document for filing.
  - **(B) OSB#.** A document filed by an attorney must include the attorney's OSB# or the name and OSB# of local counsel for an attorney admitted *pro hac vice*.
  - (C) Signatures. LBR 9011-4 applies.
  - **(D) Pagination.** The document title, or an abbreviation, must be placed in the lower-left margin of each page of a multiple-page document together with the page number and total number of pages (e.g., Ex. A pg. 1 of 3).
- (b) Required Judge's Paper Copy if Document Filed Within Three Business Days Before a Scheduled Hearing. A paper copy of any document filed within three business days before a hearing must be promptly delivered to the court, and must be clearly marked "JUDGE'S COPY."

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(c) Filing in Multiple Cases or Adversary Proceedings. A document to be filed in multiple cases or adversary proceedings that have not been consolidated must have all case or adversary numbers included in the heading, and must be filed in each affected case or adversary. If filed on paper, a signed original must be filed in each affected case or adversary.

## (d) Amendment.

- (1) General. An amended document must be:
  - (A) Entitled a "(insert First, Second, etc.) Amended (insert Title)."
  - (B) Complete, including exhibits, without reference to any part of any prior document—but <u>LBR 1009-1</u> applies to a list of creditors, equity security holders, or other interested entities.
  - **(C)** Attached as an exhibit to any motion to amend.
  - **(D)** Served under FRBPs 7004 and 7005, and LBRs 1009-1 and 7005-1.
- (2) Plan and Disclosure Statement. <u>LBR 3015-2</u> applies in chapter 12 and 13. <u>LBR 3019-1</u> applies in chapter 11.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Caption—Document LBR 9004-2.
- Caption—Petition LBR 1005-1.
- Document to be Signed by a Judge LBR 9021-1.
- Exhibits LBRs 7007-1(b) and 9017-1.
- Forms—LBF & OBF LBRs 9001-1(t) and (z) and 9009-1.
- Service & Certificate of Service LBR 7005-1.

## Rule 9004-2. Document—Captions.

(a) Location. The caption of any document must not begin less than 1" from the top of the first page, and must substantially conform to this LBR unless an LBF or OBF requires otherwise.

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**(b)** Case Template. The caption of a document filed in a case, but not in an adversary proceeding, must be in substantially the following form:

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON

In re	) Ca	se No.** [Insert case number]
[NOTE: Insertion of the "other names used" included on the petition under LBR	) ) TI: )	ΓLE [Insert description of the document]
1005-1(b) is not required, except on notices under FRBP 2002(n)]	-	OTE: Add the following if filed in response to ticed hearing:]
Debtor(s)		ATE OF HEARING: ME OF HEARING:
	) has	OTE: Add the following if district court judges matter for review under either <u>LR 2100.4</u> or <u>2100.11</u> :]
	RE	FERRED TO U.S. DISTRICT COURT
	-	OTE: Add the following to first pleading if manding jury trial:]
	, ) DE )	EMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

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<sup>\*\*</sup>The case number consists of a seven digit number: the first two digits represent the year the case was filed, followed by a hyphen, then five digits (the first digit being either a "3," "4" or "5" for a case being administered by the Portland office, or a "6," "7" or "8" for a case being administered by the Eugene office), followed by another hyphen, the three initials of the judge handling the case (in lower case letters), and then the number of the Code chapter under which the case is currently being administered (e.g., 11-31000-elp7 for a 2011 chapter 7 case administered in Portland by Judge Perris).

# (c) Adversary Proceeding Template. The caption must be in substantially the following form:

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON

In re	) Case No. [Insert case number]
[NOTE: Insertion of the "other names used" included on the petition under LBR	) Adv. Proc. No.*** [Insert Adv. Proc. No.]
1005-1(b) is not required, except on notices under FRBP 2002(n)]	) TITLE [Insert description of the document]
Debtor(s)	<ul><li>[Add if filed in response to noticed</li><li>hearing:]</li></ul>
[Insert plaintiff names] Plaintiff(s)	DATE OF HEARING:  TIME OF HEARING:
V.	) [NOTE: Add the following if district court ) judge has matter for review under either
[Insert defendant names] Defendant(s)	) <u>LR 2100.4</u> or <u>LR 2100.11</u> :]
	REFERRED TO U.S. DISTRICT COURT )
	) [NOTE: Add the following to first pleading if demanding jury trial:]
	) DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL )
	,

\*\*\*The adversary proceeding number consists of a six digit number: the first two digits represent the year the adversary proceeding was filed, followed by a hyphen, then four digits (the first digit being either a "3," "4" or "5" for an adversary being administered by the Portland office, or a "6," "7" or "8" for an adversary being administered by the Eugene office), followed by another hyphen, and the three initials (in lower case letters) of the judge handling the proceeding (e.g., 09-6000-aer for a 2009 adversary proceeding administered in Eugene by Judge Radcliffe).

**Cross-reference:** Petition—Caption - LBR 1005-1.

## Rule 9005.1-1. Constitutional Challenge to a Statute.

A notice of constitutional question must be accompanied by a proposed form of certification under 28 U.S.C. §2403 for execution and transmission by the court to the United States Attorney General or state attorney general, as appropriate.

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#### Rule 9009-1. Forms—Local (LBF) & Official (OBF).

- (a) Availability. The LBFs and OBFs are available on the court's Web site at <a href="www.orb.uscourts.gov">www.orb.uscourts.gov</a>. In response to a written request at a clerk's office location, accompanied by a 9"x12" SASE that includes sufficient first-class postage to mail a two pound package if the request is mailed, the clerk will provide, without cost, one master copy of all LBFs required for use. A request of the clerk's office must be accompanied by a written certification that the requestor does not have access to the Internet.
- **(b) Applicable Version.** When filed, an LBF or OBF must be on the most current version available at the time of filing. If a trustee is specifically named in an LBF's preprinted text, the filing party must use the version of the LBF naming the case trustee.
- (c) Instructions. If an LBR requires that an LBF or OBF be used, the user must comply with any instructions regarding the form's use.
- **(d) Preparation.** If an LBF or OBF is prepared on a form other than the one available on the court's Web site, the document must be identical in both format and text (i.e., a "mirror" image) to the most current version of the LBF or OBF available on the court's Web site that is applicable at the time the form is filed. The clerk need not serve any document or notice that cannot readily and legibly be converted into PDF format.
- **(e) Completion.** An LBF or OBF must be fully completed when filed unless otherwise permitted under an LBR, the LBF, or the OBF.

# Rule 9010-1. Attorney—Notice of Appearance & Representation of an Organization.

- (a) Attorney Admission.
  - (1) General. To appear before the court, an attorney must be admitted to practice before the district court.
  - (2) LRs 83.1 through 83.12. LRs 83.1 through 83.12 apply to an attorney practicing before the court, except as follows:
    - **(A) "This Court" Defined.** References to the court and the clerk mean the bankruptcy court and bankruptcy court clerk.
    - **(B) CM/ECF Registration.** The provisions in <u>LR 83.1</u> regarding CM/ECF registration do not apply. <u>LBR 5005-4</u> applies.

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- (C) **Pro Hac Vice.** LR 83.3 regarding *pro hac vice* admission applies to practice before the court, but no admission fee is charged, and the application for admission must be submitted to the clerk on LBF #120. An attorney admitted *pro hac vice* will not be considered an attorney of record.
- (3) Change of Address. In addition to the notice of change of an attorney's address required by the district court, an attorney must give notice in this court of the address change under (A) or (B).
  - (A) Attorney Will Remain Attorney of Record for All Pending Cases and Adversary Proceedings.
    - (i) **ECF Participant.** The attorney must change the attorney's address in ECF.
    - (ii) NonECF Participant. The attorney must submit a letter to the clerk that includes the attorney's OSB#, new address and its effective date.
  - (B) Attorney Will Not Remain Attorney of Record for All Pending Cases and Adversary Proceedings. The attorney must ensure that a notice of substitution of attorney is filed in each case and adversary proceeding by the attorney to whom the case or adversary proceeding is being transferred. A single notice of substitution that includes the case number or adversary proceeding number, and related caption party name(s), for each case and proceeding to be transferred may be prepared and used for the filing in each affected case and proceeding.
- (b) Attorney of Record/Lead Attorney.
  - (1) Attorney of Record. An "attorney of record" is the attorney upon whom service is to be made, and to whom notices will be directed by the court. A party's attorney of record will normally be the first attorney admitted to practice before both the OSB and the district court that is named on the initial document filed for the party. A law firm or professional corporation will not be considered the attorney of record for any party. A party may change its attorney of record at any time by filing and serving a notice of substitution of attorney of record. If a party has an attorney of record, the name of the attorney of record must appear on each document filed on behalf of the party, but a document may be signed by another member of that attorney's firm.

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- (2) Lead Attorney. If a nonECF Participant attorney for a party has an agreement with an ECF Participant attorney to electronically file documents for the party, the ECF Participant will be designated, and considered by the court, as the "lead attorney." An attorney designated as a lead attorney for a party will be considered the attorney of record for the party until such time as another ECF Participant is substituted as the attorney of record for that party.
- **(c)** Representation of an Organization. An organization, other than a corporate standing or panel trustee, must be represented by an attorney except to prepare and file a proof of claim. In this subdivision, "organization" includes a corporation, partnership, association, trust, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, conservator, guardian, and any other entity that is not an individual.
- **Substitution of Attorney.** An attorney who proposes to be substituted for an attorney of record must file a notice of substitution in each affected case or adversary proceeding.
- (e) Withdrawal of a Chapter 7 Debtor's Attorney Upon Full Performance of Agreed Upon Services.
  - (1) Fee Agreement re Required Services. An attorney who agrees to represent a debtor, but not represent the debtor in all matters relating to a case, must enter into a written fee agreement with the debtor that includes a detailed description of all services the attorney will perform on behalf of the debtor. Before the debtor signs the fee agreement, the attorney must provide written disclosures that clearly explain to the debtor additional duties the debtor may be required to perform without the attorney's assistance and the associated risks. The debtor must sign and date an acknowledgment of receipt of the disclosures. At a minimum, the agreement must provide that the attorney will perform the following services:
    - (A) Counsel the debtor with regard to all bankruptcy and nonbankruptcy options, and the potential benefits and detriments of each.
    - **(B)** Assist the debtor with all aspects relating to the preparation of the petition, including educational requirements and explaining the effects of a discharge.
    - **(C)** File the petition.
    - **(D)** Assist with all matters up to and through conclusion of the meeting of creditors. Adversary proceedings, however, may be specifically excluded from the agreement.

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(A) a certification that the attorney has performed all services required by the fee agreement, and (B) copies of the fee agreement and the written disclosures that were provided to the debtor before the debtor signed the fee agreement.

#### Rule 9011-1. Attorney—Duties.

(a) Notice of Settlement. A movant or plaintiff must promptly inform the court when a contested matter or adversary proceeding is settled.

# (b) Request for Extension or Continuance.

(1) Evidentiary Hearing. A request for extension of a time limit or for continuance of any evidentiary hearing must be by motion supported by a certification demonstrating good cause, appropriate use of prior time, and that the continuance is being requested at the earliest time practical. The motion must state the number of prior continuances, that the moving party has consulted with the opposing counsel regarding the request, and whether the opposing counsel consents or objects to the requested continuance. This subdivision applies even if all parties stipulate to the continuance.

#### (2) Nonevidentiary Hearing or Conference.

- (A) A request must state each affected party's response to the request or attempts that have been made to gain each party's consent.
- (B) If the continuance request is granted, the movant must serve notice of the date, time, and location of the continued hearing on all affected parties, and file a certification of that service within two business days after receiving the information from the court.

# (c) Reminders to the Court of Matter Under Advisement for More Than 60 Days.

- (1) Initial Reminder. In the event a judge has under advisement any matter, including a motion or decision in a bench trial, more than 60 days, each party affected by the matter must send the judge a letter particularly describing the matter and stating the date the matter was taken under advisement.
- (2) Continuing Reminders. If a matter remains under advisement for more than 105 days, each affected party must send a letter similar to the one required in (1) to the judge and to the chief judge of the court promptly, and at intervals of 45 days thereafter.

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# Rule 9011-2. [Reserved]

# Rule 9011-3. Sanctions, Remedies, & Suspension/Disbarment.

- (a) General Sanctions and Remedies. A party or attorney who without just cause fails to comply with any provision of an LBR, FRCP, FRBP, LR, statute, or order; fails timely to notify the court of withdrawal, lack of opposition, settlement or proposed continuance of any matter; presents to the court unnecessary contested matters or adversary proceedings, motions, or unwarranted opposition; fails to appear or prepare for presentation to the court; or otherwise multiplies the proceedings in a case to increase costs unreasonably or vexatiously, may be subject to one or more of the following remedies:
  - (1) Entry of an order or judgment of default on a specific issue or the entire matter.
  - Payment of any expense, including filing fees, attorney fees, or reporter fees incurred by any party or the court because of the violation.
  - (3) Entry of an order of dismissal for lack of prosecution.
  - (4) Any other appropriate sanction or remedy.
- **(b) Failure to Appear or Properly Prepare.** The failure of a party to file any required document, appear at a preliminary hearing or pretrial conference, complete necessary preparations, meet and confer as required, appear or be prepared for trial or a hearing on a contested matter on the date assigned, or make other appearances or preparations the court deems necessary for appropriate and timely case administration, may be considered an abandonment of the party's position or a failure to prosecute or defend diligently.
- **Suspension/Disbarment.** An attorney suspended or barred from the practice of law before any court may be served with an order to show cause why the attorney should not similarly be suspended or barred from practice before this court until the attorney is reinstated as an active member in good standing of that other court.

**Cross-reference:** Sanctions—Mediation - LBR 9019-2(c)(2).

# Rule 9011-4. Signatures.

(a) Paper Document. A signer's name must be typed or legibly printed under a signature line, and a signature must not obscure any text.

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(b) **Document Filed Electronically.** A document filed electronically must contain, in each location a signature is required, the electronic signature of the filer and of any other signer of the document as follows: "/s/ (Name)." By affixing the "/s/ (Name)" of another signer to an electronically filed document (e.g., a debtor's petition or a stipulation), the filing ECF Participant certifies under FRBP 9011 that the filer possesses a counterpart of the document bearing an original signature for each signer. However with respect to the signature of another signer on a document other than an affidavit, a sworn verification, or an unsworn declaration, the filer need not possess the ink signature of the signer, but must at least possess an image of the ink signature such as a photocopy, fax, or scanned image. A document may be signed in counterparts.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Attorney of Record LBR 9010-1(b).
- ECF Participant Signature LBR 5005-4(c).

#### Rule 9013-1. Motion Practice—Contested Matters.

- (a) General. This LBR applies to contested matters as defined in FRBP 9014.
- (b) Adversary Proceeding LBRs Applicable to Contested Matters.
  - (1) **Briefs.** LBRs 7007-1(b)(1), (2), and (3) apply.
  - (2) Certificate of Service. LBR 7005-1 applies.
  - (3) Expedited Hearing. LBR 7007-1(c) applies.
  - (4) Impermissible Stipulations. LBR 7001-1(c) applies.
  - (5) Injunctions—Application for Temporary Restraining Order or Preliminary Injunction. LBR 7065-1 applies.
  - (6) Oral Argument/Telephone Appearance. LBR 7007-1(d) applies.
  - (7) **Prefiling Conference Certification.** LBR 7007-1(a) applies to a motion relating to a pending contested matter, but it does not apply to one initiating a contested matter.
  - (8) Summary Judgment. <u>LBR 7056-1</u> applies.
- (c) Service/Notice of Motion. LBRs <u>2002-1</u> and <u>7005-1</u> apply. A notice of motion will be required only when specified under an LBR.

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# (d) Objection.

# (1) Filing Deadline.

(A) If Notice of Hearing Served Ten or More Days Before Hearing. Unless a different deadline is set in an FRBP, LBR, order, or notice, no later than seven days before the date set for hearing a party objecting to requested relief must file and serve an objection identifying the interest of the objector and stating with particularity the grounds for objection.

# (B) If Notice of Hearing Served Less Than Ten Days Before Hearing.

- (i) **Deadline.** Any objection must be filed and served no later than 4:30 p.m. on the business day before the hearing.
- **(ii) Required Judge's Copy.** A clearly marked "JUDGE'S COPY" must be delivered to the court by the same deadline.
- **Failure to Object.** A motion to which no timely objection has been filed may be decided on the moving documents without a hearing.

# (e) Discovery.

- (1) General. FRCP 26(a)(2) does not apply to a contested matter, but a party must disclose, no later than seven business days before trial, the identity of any individual who may offer expert testimony at trial. An expert's written report must be served on each opposing party as soon as the report is available, but no later than one business day before trial.
- (2) Timing. The presumptive stay of discovery under FRCP 26(d) does not apply to a contested matter. Discovery may begin at any time.

## (f) Testimony Presentation at Contested Matter Hearings.

(1) Testimony may be offered, and received if admissible, at a hearing, except that no testimony may be offered or received at a hearing conducted by telephone, or designated as a preliminary hearing or a status conference, unless agreed to by all essential parties and the presiding judge or provided for in a court-prepared notice of hearing.

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A notice of hearing on a contested matter must state whether or not testimony may be offered and received if admissible.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Abandonment LBR 6007-1.
- Abstention LBR 5011-2.
- Automatic Stay—Relief From LBRs 4001-1(a) and (b).
- Cash Collateral Use LBRs 4001-1(c) and (d).
- Chapter 7 Trustee's Motion for Continuance of Stay re Personal Property <u>LBR</u> 4001-1(i).
- Claim—Objection LBR 3007-1.
- Compensation or Expense Application <u>LBR 2016-1</u>.
- Confirming Stay Not in Effect LBR 4001-1(h).
- Conversion—Case LBRs 1017-1 and 2016-1(f).
- Credit (Obtaining) LBRs 4001-1(c) and (d).
- Deposit Into Court's Registry Fund <u>LBR 7067-1</u>.
- Dismissal—Case LBR 1017-2.
- Documents—Requirements of Form <u>LBR 9004-1</u>.
- Executory Contracts & Unexpired Leases (Assume, Reject or Assign) LBR 6006-1.
- Exhibits LBRs 9004-1(a)(9) and 9017-1.
- Extend or Impose Automatic Stay LBR 4001-1(g).
- Hardship Discharge LBR 4004-1.
- Lien Avoidance Under §522(f) LBR 4003-2.

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- Property Use, Sale (Including Free and Clear of Liens), or Lease <u>LBR 6004-1</u>.
- Proposed Order if No Objection Timely Filed LBR 2002-1(h).
- Proposed Order or Judgment <u>LBR 9021-1(a)</u>.
- Redemption LBR 6008-1.
- Removal or Remand LBR 9027-1.
- Sanctions & Remedies LBR 9011-3.
- Use of Electronically Recorded Testimony LBR 9017-1(f).
- Withdrawal of Reference (28 U.S.C. §157(d)) LBR 9033-1.

# Rule 9015-1. Jury Trials—Procedures.

- (a) LR Applicability. LRs <u>47</u>, <u>48</u>, and <u>51.1(c)</u> and (d) apply to contested matters and adversary proceedings.
- **(b) Demand.** A demand for jury trial endorsed on a pleading must be set out in the title of the pleading in the format provided under <u>LBRs 9004-2(c)</u> and <u>(d)</u>. In a case removed from another court where the demanding party has already filed a pleading, demand may be made in a separate document.
- (c) Consent to Have Trial Conducted by Bankruptcy Judge. If a party has the right to, and has timely demanded, a jury trial, the parties may consent to have a jury trial conducted by a bankruptcy judge under 28 U.S.C. §157(e) by jointly or separately filing either a statement of consent no later than the date the pretrial order is lodged, or by consenting on the record in court.
- (d) Pretrial Procedures. LRs 2100.8 and 16.6(b) and (c) apply.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Proposed Pretrial Order <u>LBR 7016-1</u>.
- Referral of Case or Adversary Proceeding LR 2100.

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#### Rule 9017-1. Exhibits and Equipment; Use of Electronically Recorded Testimony.

- (a) General. This LBR applies to an exhibit to be offered in evidence, and equipment to be used at a hearing or trial.
- (b) Preparation of Exhibits for a Hearing or Trial. An exhibit must be marked before the commencement of any hearing or trial. A plaintiff's or movant's exhibit must be consecutively numbered beginning with a "1." A defendant's or respondent's exhibit must be consecutively lettered beginning with an "A." The page number of the exhibit, and total number of pages in the exhibit, must follow the exhibit number or letter on each page of each exhibit (e.g., "Ex. A pg. 1 of 3" for a defendant's/respondent's first exhibit that has three pages). Each party must provide the original and three copies of its exhibits, plus an additional copy for each party participating in the hearing, and each set must be accompanied by an exhibit list. The court may exclude or limit the use of any exhibit not prepared or presented in compliance with this LBR.

# (c) Audio/Visual Equipment.

- (1) General. Each party must provide all audio or video equipment for use in a court proceeding except to the extent the court can make equipment available under (2). A party or the party's attorney must make arrangements before the hearing or trial with the courtroom deputy clerk to move the equipment through security and position it in the courtroom.
- (2) Court Equipment. The court has a limited variety of audio and visual equipment available for use at trial. A party must notify the court and courtroom deputy clerk at the pretrial conference of a need to use the court's equipment and meet with the courtroom deputy clerk before the trial to learn how to operate the equipment. A party must assist the courtroom deputy clerk in returning the equipment to the storage location at the conclusion of the trial. The court may, in the interest of fairness and efficiency, limit the use of audio or visual equipment, or condition its use on its availability to all parties.
- (d) Large Exhibit. A large exhibit unsuitable for storage by the court may be returned to the party introducing it for retention until the matter is no longer subject to appellate review. A party storing an exhibit under this LBR must produce it if required for an appellate record.
- (e) Return or Disposal of Exhibits upon Finality. Thirty days after a matter is no longer subject to appellate review, the party that offered an exhibit may have it returned without order upon a written request stating that no appeal is pending and the case or proceeding is final. The requestor must furnish the clerk with a SASE or make other appropriate arrangements for delivery of the exhibit. If a party does not request that an exhibit be returned within 60 days after a matter is no longer subject to appellate review, the clerk may destroy or otherwise dispose of it without further notice.

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(f) Use of Electronically Recorded Testimony. A party must not use the audio recording of any deposition, hearing, meeting of creditors, or other hearing or deposition as evidence; instead, a transcript of that testimony prepared under this LBR must be introduced. A party may arrange with the clerk (or UST for meeting of creditors testimony) for the timely preparation and filing of, and payment for, a transcript prepared by an authorized independent transcriptionist. The transcript must be of the entire proceeding unless the opposing party has been given two weeks written notice that specifies what parts of the transcript will be offered. The transcriptionist may require an advance deposit of the estimated transcription cost. To be used in a hearing or trial, a copy of a transcript required to be filed by a transcriptionist must be filed electronically or, if necessary, on an authorized electronic medium (e.g., a CD).

#### **Cross-references:**

- Exhibits LBRs 7007-1(b) and 9004-1(a)(9).
- Transcript LBR 5077-1.

## Rule 9019-1. Settlement & Compromise.

- (a) Settlement Conference. A judge may order or a party may request a conference at any time.
- **Notice.** The party requesting approval of a compromise or settlement must give notice under LBR 2002-1(b) of its intent to submit a proposed order to that effect, except that a chapter 7, 12, or 13 trustee must use the appropriate LBF (e.g., #761 or #761.2).

## Rule 9019-2. Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)—Mediation.

- (a) Assignment of Matter to Mediation.
  - (1) Order.
    - (A) General. The court may assign a matter to mediation on its own motion or on motion of a party or the UST on <u>LBF #202</u> or <u>LBF #202.5</u>, whichever applies. Notwithstanding assignment of a matter to mediation, the matter will be set on the court's next available hearing date.
    - **(B) Stipulation.** The court may refer any matter to mediation by entering a stipulated order lodged on LBF #204 or LBF #204.5, whichever applies.
  - **Mediation Procedure.** Upon assignment of a matter to mediation, this LBR becomes binding on all parties to the mediation.

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### (b) Appointment of Mediator.

- (1) If the parties cannot agree on a mediator within seven days after assignment to mediation, each party must submit to the judge—but not file—and serve on the other mediation parties a list of four acceptable mediators. The judge must appoint a mediator and an alternate mediator from the parties' lists.
- (2) If the selected mediator is unable to serve, the selected mediator must file a notice of inability to accept appointment within seven days after receiving the notice of appointment and immediately serve it on the alternate mediator. The alternate mediator becomes the mediator if the alternate mediator fails to file a notice of inability to accept appointment within seven days after the original mediator's inability notice was filed. If neither mediator can serve, the judge will appoint another mediator and alternate mediator from the parties' lists.
- (3) A mediator may be disqualified for bias or prejudice under 28 U.S.C. §144, or if not disinterested under §101. A mediator must be disqualified in any matter to which 28 U.S.C. §455 would apply if the mediator were a justice, judge, or magistrate unless disqualification is waived by the parties in writing following disclosure.
- (4) Any judicial officer may be appointed mediator under these LBRs. A judicial officer appointed as a mediator is subject to each LBR, FRCP, FRBP, and Federal Rule of Evidence (FRE) pertaining to alternative dispute resolution and mediation.

#### (c) Mediation.

- (1) Time and Place. After consulting with all parties, the mediator must set a reasonable time and place for the mediation conference and promptly give the parties notice of the conference. The conference must be set as soon after entry of the mediation order and as far in advance of the court's final evidentiary hearing on the matter as is practicable. To ensure prompt dispute resolution, the mediator must establish the time for all mediation activities, including a deadline for the parties to act on a settlement or recommendation.
- (2) Mediation Conference. Each mediation party, or an individual representing a nonindividual mediation party, must attend the conference and must have full authority to negotiate all disputed amounts and issues. The mediator may determine when the parties must be present in the conference room. The mediator must report to the judge a willful failure to attend or participate in the mediation process or conference in good faith, and that failure may result in the imposition of sanctions.

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- (3) Orders. The mediator has no authority to enter any order regarding the mediation. If the mediator desires entry of an order with respect to the mediation, the mediator must apply to the judge with notice to the parties.
- (4) Recommendations of the Mediator. The mediator need not make any written comments or recommendations, but the mediator may furnish the parties with a written settlement recommendation, which must not be filed.
- (5) Postmediation Procedures. Promptly after conclusion of the mediation conference, and in any event no later than 3:00 p.m. two business days before the date set for trial or hearing on the mediation matter, the mediator must file a final report on LBF #210 or LBF #210.5, whichever applies, showing compliance or noncompliance by the parties and the mediation results. If in the mediation the parties settle the matter, they must determine who must prepare and submit to the court a stipulated order or judgment under LBR 9021-1(a)(3)(C), or joint motion for approval of compromise of controversy, within 21 days after the conference concludes. Failure to timely file a stipulated order or judgment, or motion, will be a basis for the court to impose appropriate sanctions. Absent a stipulated order or judgment, or joint motion, no party will be bound by any statement made or action taken at the mediation conference. If the conference ends in an impasse, the matter will be heard or tried as scheduled.
- (6) **Termination of Mediation.** When the mediator's final report on LBF #210 or LBF #210.5 is filed, the mediation will be complete and the mediator excused and relieved from further responsibilities in the matter without further order.
- (7) Withdrawal from Mediation. A matter referred under this LBR may be withdrawn from mediation by the judge assigned to the matter. A party in interest, the UST, or the mediator may file a motion to withdraw a matter from mediation for cause.
- (d) Mediator Compensation. The mediator's compensation will be on terms satisfactory to the mediator and the parties, and subject to court approval if the estate is to be charged with the expense. A request for compensation or reimbursement payments from the estate must be made in the form of a proof of claim under LBR 2016-1(a)(1). The claim must include separate itemizations of all time spent on premediation activity, mediation activity, and postmediation activity.

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### (e) Confidentiality.

- (1) Mediator. Confidential information disclosed by a party or by a witness in the course of the mediation must not be disclosed by the mediator. Except for the mediator's final report, all records, reports, or other documents received or made by a mediator while serving in that capacity are confidential.
- **Mediation Effort.** FRE 408 applies to mediation. Except as permitted under FRE 408, no party may rely on or introduce as evidence in connection with any arbitration, judicial, or other proceeding the existence of or any aspect of the mediation effort, including, but not limited to:
  - (A) Views expressed or suggestions made by another party regarding settlement of the dispute.
  - **(B)** Admissions made by another party in the course of the mediation.
  - (C) Proposals made or views expressed by the mediator.
- (f) Compliance with Orders, FRBPs, LBRs, and the Code. Nothing in this LBR relieves any party from complying with any order, FRBP, LBR, or the Code, including times set for discovery or preparation for a hearing pending on a mediation matter.

## Rule 9021-1. Order or Judgment—Entry of; Costs.

## (a) General Requirements re Proposed Order or Judgment.

(1) **Proposed Order or Judgment.** Except for a stipulated order or judgment, a proposed order or judgment must be presented as a document separate from any other document unless it is being submitted on an LBF.

#### (2) Lodging.

(A) General. Except for a stipulated order or judgment, a copy of the proposed document must be served on all interested parties no later than three business days before lodging the proposed order or judgment. Unless provided otherwise in an LBR, a proposed order or judgment must not be lodged until it is appropriate for the court to sign the document.

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- **(B)** Orders to be Lodged with Motion or Application.
  - (i) When requested by motion, substitution of attorney.
  - (ii) FRBP 2004 examination.
  - (iii) Requiring an interim report be filed to allow the filing of an interim compensation application.
  - (iv) If the motion is accompanied by a certificate of consent by all parties, then the following:
    - (I) Extension or shortening of time.
    - (II) Extension of §523/§727 deadline.
    - (III) Amendment of pleading.
- (3) Form.
  - (A) General. The top margin on the first page of any order or judgment must be 4", and devoid of all text except for optional line numbers, which must not be more than 3/4" from the left edge. All other pages must have a top and bottom margin of 1". A proposed order or judgment must:
    - (i) Contain a brief description of the subject and content in the title if the document is an order.
    - (ii) State in simple and direct terms the ruling of the court.
    - (iii) Include a street address, and include or attach a legal description, of any real property to which it pertains.
    - (iv) Unless on an LBF, have three pound (###) symbols centered on the line immediately after the last line of the order or judgment text.
    - (v) Not include a "Dated" line.
    - (vi) Not have a judge's signature line unless one is included by the court on an LBF.

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- (vii) Include the following after the three pound (###) symbols:
  - (I) On the left side of the last page, the signature of the individual presenting it, preceded by the words "Presented by" and followed by the presenter's name, address, telephone number, and capacity.
  - (II) A list of names and addresses of all entities requiring paper service, followed by, if filed by an ECF Participant, a clearly identified list of the names of all entities requiring service that will be served electronically.
- **(B) Default.** In addition to the requirements in (A), the following form requirements apply to a proposed default order or judgment:
  - (i) Order. A proposed default order must:
    - (I) If to be entered in an adversary proceeding, state whether the matter is core or noncore, and not be included on the same document as the judgment.
    - (II) State the filing date and docket number of the underlying motion or application, and of any notice concerning the motion or application.
    - (III) Certify that the party to be defaulted made no response within the specified response period, plus three days if FRBP 9006(f) applies.
  - **(ii) Judgment.** A proposed default judgment must be accompanied by a separate form of proposed order of default.
- **(C) Stipulated Order or Judgment.** In addition to the requirements in (A), the following form requirements apply:
  - **General.** A statement that the order or judgment is a stipulation, and signatures, must only be placed below the three pound signs (###) denoting the end of the order or judgment text.

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- (ii) Electronically Filed Document Intended to Delay or Stop Entry of an Imminent Order (e.g., Discharge, Dismissal). If the filer wishes a stipulated order or judgment to delay or stop the imminent entry of another order, the filer must both:
  - (I) Electronically file the proposed order or judgment as though it were an objection or a motion, using the event that would have been used if a stipulation had not been reached. Examples of documents that should be filed in this manner include a proposed stipulated order when there has been no previously filed objection to dismissal for failure timely to comply with legal requirements, or no previously filed motion to delay entry of discharge, extend time to file §727 complaints, or extend time to file documents.
  - (II) Lodge that document again using the "Upload Order on Previously Filed Motion" event under the Order Upload category, and link it to the document filed under (I).
- (4) Service. The clerk may direct an entity to serve copies of an order or judgment.
- **(b) "Text-Only" Entry.** An order or judgment electronically entered by court personnel as a text-only docket entry is as official and binding as if the judge or clerk had signed a document containing that text.
- (c) Costs and Fees.
  - (1) General. Allowed costs will be taxed by the judge under FRBP 7054(b) and this LBR. Time deadlines in (2) and (3) relating to filing, or objecting to, a cost bill also apply to filing, or objecting to, a request for attorney fees in a contested matter or adversary proceeding in which judgment is sought for the prevailing party's attorney fees.
  - (2) Filing of Cost Bill. A cost bill must itemize claimed costs, be verified under 28 U.S.C. §1924, and be filed and served on all adverse parties no later than 14 days after entry of the order or judgment to which it relates.

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# (3) Objection to Cost Bill.

- (A) An objection to a cost bill must be filed and served no later than 14 days after the cost bill is served. The objection may be supported by a brief, and any statement of fact must be supported by an affidavit. No later than seven days after service of an objection, the party filing the cost bill may file and serve a reply.
- **(B)** In the absence of any objection, any item listed in the cost bill may be taxed.

#### **Cross-references:**

- Judgment—Execution LBR 7069-1.
- Proposed Order or Judgment in Noncore Matters that Require Review, Determination, and Signing by a District Judge <u>LR 2100</u>.
- Proposed Order if No Objection Timely Filed <u>LBR 2002-1(h)</u>.
- Reminders to the Court of Matter Under Advisement for More Than 60 Days <u>LBR</u> 9011-1(c).

## Rule 9027-1. Removal or Remand—Noticing.

- (a) General. No later than seven days after filing a notice of removal, the removing party must file evidence of compliance with the notice requirements of FRBP 9027(b).
- **(b) If Hearing Set.** If a hearing has been set by the court from which an adversary proceeding is removed, the removing party must promptly send notice of the removal to the clerk of that court and any judge assigned to the adversary proceeding in that court.

# **Cross-references:**

- Documents—Requirements of Form <u>LBR 9004-1.</u>
- Jury Trial Demand LBR 9015-1.

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#### Rule 9029-1. Local Rules.

- (a) General. LBR 1001-1 applies.
- **(b)** Cross-References. Cross-references are provided in these LBRs for user convenience. The court does not intend for the cross-references to preclude a user's consideration and use of any other LBR that may be applicable.
- **Exceptions.** The court may excuse a party from complying with any LBR to avoid injustice or to expedite the administration of a case or adversary proceeding.

#### Rule 9029-2. [Reserved]

#### Rule 9029-3. Local Rules—District Court.

<u>LRs 2100-2300</u> apply to cases and adversary proceedings in this court. The other LRs do not apply unless specifically referred to in an LBR.

Rule 9033-1. Final District Court Determination of Motion to Withdraw Reference or Change Venue Based on Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in Noncore Adversary Proceedings, and on Reports and Recommendations.

<u>LBR 9021-1(a)</u> regarding the format of a proposed order or judgment also applies to proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, or a proposed report and recommendations.

**Cross-reference:** General re Referral of Bankruptcy Cases and Adversary Proceedings - <u>LR</u> 2100.

#### Rule 9036-1. Electronic Transmission of Notices.

The Bankruptcy Noticing Center (BNC) may electronically send notices to any entity that requests this service by completing and executing the *Electronic Noticing Agreement* and, if applicable, the appropriate *Evidence of Authority Forms*, which must be subsequently executed by the clerk. The clerk may delegate to the BNC the authority to enter into and monitor *Electronic Noticing Agreements* with entities acting solely on their own behalf or, in an instance where an entity is acting as an agent for others, those agreements executed by both the party and the agent.

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#### Rule 9037-1. Privacy Protection.

- (a) Social-Security (SSN)/Individual Taxpayer-Identification (ITIN) Numbers. The following provisions apply to an SSN or ITIN:
  - (1) Electronically Filed Petition. An OBF#B21 must be prepared, signed, and retained by the debtor's attorney under <u>LBR 5005-4(e)</u>, but must not be filed with an electronically filed voluntary petition.
  - Amendment. To amend a debtor's SSN or ITIN, the debtor must file an amended OBF #B21 with an attached certificate of service stating that a copy of the amended OBF #B21 (including all nine digits of the number) was served on all interested parties.
- **(b)** Redaction in Electronically Filed Transcript. The following procedures apply:
  - (1) General. Each party, including any attorney for the party, must review a transcript for the following information that should be redacted under the Judicial Conference's privacy policy: SSNs and ITINs should be redacted to show only the last four digits; birth dates should contain only the year of birth; individuals known to be minors should be referred to only with initials; and financial account numbers should be redacted to show only the last four digits. [NOTE: This LBR is adopted pursuant to a privacy policy promulgated and required for use by the Judicial Conference of the United States. See the accompanying Policy Note provided by the Judicial Conference.]
  - (2) Notice of Intent to Request Redaction. No later than seven calendar days after a transcript is filed, a party must file a notice of that party's intent to request redaction of information from the transcript. A party is responsible for reviewing the opening and closing statements made on behalf of that party, any statements made by that party, and the testimony of any witness called by that party. If no notice is timely filed, the court will presume that redaction of personal data is not necessary.
  - (3) Redaction Request/Completion. Once a party has filed a notice of intent to request redaction, that party must, no later than 21 calendar days after the transcript was filed, submit to the court reporter or transcriptionist a list of items to be redacted including the transcript page, paragraph, and line in which the personal data appears, and the manner in which each is to be redacted. No later than 31 calendar days after the transcript was filed, the court reporter or transcriptionist must redact the identifiers as directed, and file the redacted transcript. Also during this time period a party may, by motion, request that additional information be redacted. No remote electronic public access to the transcript will be allowed until the court has ruled on any motion regarding its redaction, all redaction deadlines have expired, and all redaction has occurred.

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#### Rule 9050-1. Sealed or *In Camera* Document.

# (a) Filing.

- (1) General. The court will seal only an entire document; it will not seal parts of a document.
- **Order Allowing.** A document must not be filed for sealing, or lodged for *in camera* review, until an order has been entered allowing the filing or lodging. The form of proposed order must state:
  - (A) The names of all individuals authorized to review, copy, photograph or inspect the document without prior written approval.
  - **(B)** If filed, the length of time the document will be sealed.
- **(b) Review or Reproduction.** An individual may not review or reproduce any sealed document, or document lodged for *in camera* review, unless authorized by order.
- (c) Large Document. A large document ordered to be sealed, or filed for *in camera* review, that the clerk is unable to store must be returned to the filing party for retention until the matter with respect to which the document was considered is finally determined by the court and no longer subject to appellate review. A party receiving the document must produce it if required under an order or for an appellate review.

#### Rule 9070-1. Exhibits.

LBRs 7007-1(b), 9004-1(a)(9), and 9017-1 apply.

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